

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000-PAGE 1

Present: President Craig; Pro-Tem Kennedy; Members: Downey, Munguia, Pfeifer, Stearn and Walsh.

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Manager, Hanlin
Public Services Director, Spallasso
Assistant to the Manager, Pasioka
Village Clerk, Marshall
Village Attorney, Ryan
Director of Public Safety, Woodard

President Craig called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the Village municipal building at 18500 W. Thirteen Mile Road.

APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2000

MOTION by Pfeifer, supported by Walsh, that the minutes of a special Council meeting held on Monday, August 14, 2000 be approved as submitted.

Motion passes unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2000

On page 8, third paragraph, second sentence change “would not come” to “will come” and September 18 to October 2.

On page 8, second paragraph from the bottom, change September 18 to October 2.

On page 2, third paragraph, include Norman Rubin’s rationale in more detail regarding the recent increase in water rates.

MOTION by Kennedy, supported by Walsh, that the minutes of a regular Council meeting held on Monday, August 21, 2000 be approved as amended.

Motion passes unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE PUBLISHED AGENDA

Fritz Heuser of 31119 Sleepy Hollow inquired about the possibility of filling the gaps of missing sidewalks along Lahser and 13 Mile Road. Bloomfield Township has laid sidewalk along Lahser between 14 Mile and 16 Mile and he wants to know what Village residents can do to expedite this matter here. Walsh responded that the Planning Board is currently discussing sidewalks and will have a public discussion on October 11, 2000 at their regular meeting. It is unknown at this time when the topic will come before Council. Residents are encouraged to attend public meetings to provide input. Craig suggested that residents could offer to pay for the entire cost of sidewalks in front of their homes through a special assessment to expedite the installation of sidewalks. Fourteen

Mile Road residents did that. Downey commented that there are two citizen groups in the Village that are interested in supporting sidewalks, and he could put Heuser in touch with them.

Jerry Suggs of 31015 Rivers Edge Ct. expressed his concern regarding the Our Lady of Albanians Festival that was held over Labor Day Weekend. His first concern was regarding parking. The Festival created a great amount of congestion on residential streets, and Suggs could hardly get into his own driveway. He suggested more officers be on duty to handle this event. Perhaps parking could be confined to one side of the street instead of both sides.

Suggs' second concern was the noise level created by the volume of music for three days. Officers made several trips to the church to request that the music be turned down and while the church temporarily complied with the request, the music eventually escalated again. Next year officers will carry noise decibel readers to monitor the music volume.

Director Woodard stated that the Festival was attended by more people this year than last. The Festival appears to be too large for the site. The church does not have to obtain permission from the Village to hold the Festival, but a liquor permit must be signed by the Public Safety Director after being issued by the State Liquor Control. Attorney Ryan stated that the church could be charged for additional officers to be on duty to handle the parking and crowd control.

Kennedy asked what obligation the Village has to approve the liquor permit. The Director of Public Safety noted that people were bringing alcohol with them to the Festival and also leaving with alcohol. He believes that there is sufficient indication that there is an alcohol element to the Festival especially when it gets to the point that the Festival committee questions whether they can control the situation.

Pfeifer commented that pedestrians walking along 13 Mile were a problem for vehicle traffic.

Downey requests that Woodard not sign the liquor permit for next year. Munguia asked if the Oakland County Sheriff's Department could help. Woodard did not think it was necessary to reach that stage. Walsh thinks alcohol is a driving force for a lot of the problems. Craig encouraged Woodard to suggest to the Festival Committee that they find another location for next year. If they do not then they may not receive a signature from the Village for their liquor permit.

Sharon Tischler of 21415 Virmar Ct. stated that problems grow with the size of the Festival. Parking has been horrendous. Several years ago the church promised to shuttle people from Groves' parking lot and assured the Village that parking would not be a problem.

PRESENTATION BY PAT GREENING REGARDING THE HALLOWEEN HOOT.

Pat Greening asked for permission to hold the Halloween Hoot on Sunday, October 22, 2000 at Beverly Park. Events will begin at 10:00 a.m. and run through 9:00 - 9:30 p.m. 15 - 20 Homeowners Associations will set up kiosks along the Hoot Trail and there will be a Haunted Forest in the center of the park. It is hoped that storytellers will have better sound equipment this year so more people can enjoy their stories.

Because prices continue to rise, Greening is asking for \$2,500 for the Hoot this year. Last year the Village contributed \$1,734 towards the Hoot and an additional \$1,739 in private donations was raised. T-shirts and sweatshirts will be available for purchase. In this year's budget, \$1,500 was allocated for the Art in the Hills show along with \$2,000 for the Halloween Hoot. Since the Art show will not be held those funds could be used for the Halloween Hoot.

RESOLVED by Downey, supported by Kennedy to approve \$2,500 for the Halloween Hoot to be held at Beverly Park on Sunday, October 22, 2000 and to waive the pavilion permit fee.

Roll call vote:

Resolution passes unanimously.

PURCHASE COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND TRAINING

Plante & Moran provided the Village with a computer study in December of 1999. Bob Belaustegui, Planning Board member and resident volunteer, explained the comparison between Plante & Moran's study versus what he is proposing. Plante & Moran proposed wiring the Village Administration, Public Safety and Public Works buildings together, along with installing all new infrastructure, hardware and software that would cost over \$100,000. Since this was not reasonably affordable for the Village all at once, this year's budget allocated \$14,000 for infrastructure which was Plante & Moran's Phase 1 recommendation.

Belaustegui presented an alternative proposal that, with the donated Firestone network equipment donation, will provide the Administration building and staff with a network adequate for present Village needs.

Instead of wiring all three buildings with 40 data drops per the Plante & Moran recommendation, the proposal only uses 21 drops in the Administration building, including one in the Council Chambers to allow for presentations off the network system.

With regard to hardware, Plante & Moran recommended a high-end network server that could handle hosting of our website through a direct connection to the web. Since our website is being hosted at a small monthly fee by an external Internet Service Provider and Village needs do not warrant this, a mid-range PC is being recommended as the server. It would be good to have a purpose built small RAID 5 server which would cost about \$2,200 more than what is included in this proposal to improve the systems fault tolerance and provide backup capability should the system go down. Right now we are in danger of losing data. We can return to a back-up set, but it would not capture anything from the last back-up set to the current time. Just last week the power backup system failed resulting in the Finance Department not being able to access water billing information for residents until it was repaired. It will not be necessary for us to purchase a firewall server as recommended by Plante & Moran since OAKNET will be providing us with that service. Plante & Moran assumed that all 14 workstations would be replaced, but instead Belaustegui is recommending six workstations be upgraded with new monitors. Further upgrades to CPU and RAM will likely be needed in the future, but can be accommodated in the present PC workstations.

Plante & Moran assumed that the Village would adopt a new network operating system, but Belaustegui is recommending moving to the Windows 2000 server base. While this is optional and we could continue to use the NetWare version 4.1 that the Village currently has, its limitations will become increasingly evident as it migrates to web-enabled MS Office software and attempts to electronically archive Village records in the future. A LAN based fax was recommended by Plante & Moran and the Firestone donation does include one, but it is probably not necessary at this time since the Village is still in a hard copy faxing mode. The central e-mail and calendar software recommended is not needed within a small office like the Village and it would put additional unnecessary stress on the server and require more maintenance by the staff.

Plante & Moran recommended adoption of MS Office for all workstations, but an inventory of needs has reduced the number of applications really needed and lowered the cost of software.

None of the computers except for the Village Manager's has an antivirus capability. Belaustegui is recommending one for each work station including training of \$2,320 not included in the Plante & Moran recommendation. Belaustegui's proposal totals \$13,545, which includes \$11,225 from Capital Purchases and \$2,320 from Education and Training.

Stearn asked how necessary it would be to have the RAID 5 server. Belaustegui responded that the Finance Department would no longer have to back up its computers every night because the RAID 5 would perform a dual file back up. Stearn is in favor of purchasing the RAID 5 server for an additional \$2,200, which would still be under the \$14,000 budgeted.

RESOLVED by Pfeifer, supported by Stearn, to authorize administration to spend the following amounts in order to proceed with the implementation of the computer study. Capital Purchases in the amount \$13,425 from account 101-900-076 and Education and Training in the amount of \$2,320 from account 101-248-958 for a total of \$15,745.

Roll call vote:

Resolution passes unanimously.

COMMIT FUNDS FOR BEVERLY PARK GRANT

Stearn reported that the Village applied for a Clean Michigan Initiative Grant and was denied. Information was obtained that our application can be resubmitted in September and an answer will be received by the end of January. Council is being asked to commit funds once again upon revising the grant application. A contingent of Parks & Recreation Board members went to Lansing to discuss the grant results. The Village asked for a 3-1 match which made it difficult to receive funds because that 3-1 match compared to other communities was much higher. If Council commits the money tonight, the Village cannot use the money until it hears from the State in early 2001.

RESOLVED by Stearn, supported by Kennedy, to revise the Village grant application to request a match of \$133,000 in Village money for \$200,000 of State money from the Clean Michigan Initiative for a total grant of \$333,000 and that the money be allocated as follows:

Pedestrian safety entrance & fence	\$90,000.00
Playground equipment	\$103,000.00
Parking lot improvements	\$140,000.00

Pfeifer asked where the \$133,000 is coming from. Stearn responded that it is a combination of private fundraising by the Friends of Beverly Park and budgeted amounts from the Parks & Recreation budget and capital improvements account.

Roll call vote:
Resolution passes unanimously.

APPROVE COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2001

Hanlin wrote a memo indicating that four regular Monday meeting dates for 2001 fall on Federal holidays. A fifth Monday, September 16 is the beginning of Rosh Hashanah. That holiday does not end until Wednesday, September 18. Stearn recommends that meeting be moved to Wednesday, September 18, 2001.

With regard to the New Year's holiday this year, it was the consensus of Council to maintain the schedule that is already published in the 2000 calendar that the Village office will be open on Friday, December 29, 2000 and closed on Tuesday, January 2, 2001.

Craig commented that a joint meeting with the Planning Board be scheduled for October this year. Two dates have been selected in 2001 for a joint meeting with the Parks & Recreation Board on Thursday, January 18, 2001 and with the Planning Board for Thursday, October 4, 2001.

Council members discussed moving Council meetings from Monday to Tuesday to avoid the legal holidays that fall on Mondays. By Charter, the only Monday that Council must meet is the Monday following the Village election in March. It was agreed that this item will return in two weeks. In the meantime, Hanlin will look at other communities to see when they meet. Ryan was asked to look into any state laws and the Village Charter to see if there are any problems moving Council meetings from Monday to Tuesday. Craig asked that administration post this item on the next agenda to allow for public input as to whether the public has a preference of Monday or Tuesday.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF PHOTOCOPY MACHINE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Council approved the purchase of a new photocopier machine for the Public Safety Department at their August 21, 2000 meeting. Since that time it was discovered that the specifications for the machine did not meet those for which we asked. Council is being asked tonight to approve the purchase of a different machine from the second low bidder.

RESOLVED by Downey, supported by Walsh, that the Village Council rescind the resolution on August 21, 2000 regarding the photo copy machine and approve the Department of Public Safety to enter into a lease agreement for one new digital copier, a Ricoh Aficio 270, with the lowest quoting vendor meeting specifications from IKON Office Solutions for a lease amount of \$230.60/month compared to \$300/month budgeted with a

service agreement estimated at \$99/month compared to \$100/month budgeted. These new rates are combined to produce a \$72/year savings over the rejected award. The estimated expenditure is \$3,296 as opposed to the budgeted amount of \$4,800 with a savings of \$1,504. Funds are available for this transaction in account #101-345-931 Public Safety R & M Office Equipment.

Roll call vote:
Resolution passes unanimously.

REFER FRANCHISE TRANSFER FROM MEDIAONE TO COMCAST CABLEVISION TO CABLECASTING BOARD FOR RECOMMENDATION

Pfeifer reported that the Village is in the process of its third hand off from Booth Communications for the Franchise Agreement.

MOTION by Pfeifer, supported by Kennedy, to refer this transfer to the Cablecasting Board for their review and recommendation. This transfer must be done within 120 days from the date it was received.

Motion passes unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS RECAPPED AS OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

MOTION by Pfeifer, supported by Walsh, that the bills from a period of 8-22-2000 through 9-5-2000 be approved for payment in the following amounts:

\$146,511.79	General Fund
11,012.00	Major Road Fund
10,061.18	Local Road Fund
24,004.25	Dedicated Millage
18,299.22	Water/Sewer Operation Fund
1,030.22	Water/Sewer Improvement Fund
<u>200.00</u>	Trust & Agency Fund
<u>\$211,118.66</u>	Total

A question on the bills was addressed by administration.

Motion passes unanimously.

LIAISON'S REPORT

Pfeifer asked Council members for input regarding the proposed Michigan Municipal League legislative policies for her to take to the MML Conference later this month.

Stearn reported that the final Concert in the Park was last Sunday. Jack Harmon and Phil Schmitt are forming a "Thin the Buckthorn Committee", and interested people should contact either of them or Stearn.

Munguia stated that the Village administration obtained current copies of the Michigan Municipal League's Zoning Board of Appeals Handbook. They will be distributed to the ZBA members and are available at the Village Office if anyone wishes to review it.

Walsh commented that the Planning Board continues to discuss sidewalks/safety paths. A public discussion will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2000. Dave Byrwa, Village Building Official, commented at the last Planning Board meeting that there has been a minor change in the site plan for Queen of Martyrs to add two handicap and two regular parking spaces. The Planning Board approved the change and no other action is necessary.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Renzo Spallasso explained the process that the Village uses to replace concrete. Resident Norm Downey, 23042 Nottingham, questioned replacing 6" concrete with 6" concrete. He feels that the replacement concrete should be thicker. Spallasso stated that both Birmingham and Southfield follow the same process as the Village. Thicker concrete is put in new subdivisions or when replacing an entire cross section, not when repairing small sections.

Amherst-Sheridan is waiting for the top layer of asphalt which will probably occur within the next week.

Southfield Road completion was accelerated. A lot of work that was scheduled to take place in October or November of this year has already been done. All work should be completed within a couple of weeks.

Hanlin congratulated Stan Pasieka for finishing the final phase of his Master's Degree. All Council members will receive a copy of his thesis which explains all of the inter-relationships between the Village and other agencies and organizations.

Walsh asked about the Vartanian property. Hanlin reported that Vartanian is still requiring the same conditions on the Lahser Road property that he would like to donate to the Village. The Oakland County Land Conservatory Organization stated that the property is not really a nature preserve. It has no water features and is not conducive to being a park. The County is continuing to work with Vartanian regarding that parcel.

Craig commented about the employee recognition picnic held in July this year. Two Village residents expressed concern over this expenditure which lead Hanlin to contact several area communities to see what, if any, employee recognition program they have in place. Of the six area communities surveyed, all have a recognition program and only one had a program that was less expensive than the Village's. Tom Ryan's opinion is that the employee picnic was an expenditure that was appropriately budgeted and approved by Council and was considered employee

compensation. This picnic was no different than sending an employee to a seminar or conference. The food was not elaborate and the awards are in line with our adopted policy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Norm Downey, 23042 Nottingham Drive expressed his concerned that the concrete repairs on Nottingham Forest subdivision streets do not last very long and that they deteriorate too quickly. Spallasso explained the process that the Village uses.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council thanked Spallasso for his efforts on the Amherst-Sheridan Relief project. They also thank Bob Belaustegui for his work on the website and the computer upgrade for the Village. Munguia has received positive comments from friends and relatives about the comprehensiveness of the Village website. He also commented that the Village office landscaping looks good.

Council congratulated Pasieka for completing his Master's degree.

Downey would like Spallasso to provide regular engineering reports in writing. He would also like to see the water retention policy return to Council. Downey believes the Village needs to be more vigorous with safety for runners and pedestrians. Birmingham has a crosswalk on Old Woodward that lights up when a button is pushed to alert drivers of pedestrians using the crosswalk. Craig stated that he saw crosswalks up north this summer that have slightly raised cement to slow down traffic and increase visibility.

Kennedy reported that long time resident and volunteer Alice Matthews passed away on September 3, 2000.

Craig commented on the Groves/Seaholm football game. He said that the band was bigger and better than ever as well as the terrific cheerleading and pompon squads. The game was well attended by both schools and the crowd was very well behaved.

MOTION by Kennedy, supported by Pfeifer, to recess for 12 minutes until 10:00 p.m.

Ayes: Craig, Downey, Kennedy, Munguia, Pfeifer, Walsh

Nays: Stearn

Motion passes (6-1)

The meeting reconvened at 10:02 p.m.

GENERAL STUDY SESSION

Craig stated that Council has two major decisions to make. One issue is on 14 Mile Road concerning the sewer that is going in. A decision needs to be made on the slope of the sewer and whether it will run along Pierce or Bates. The other issue is to select one of three routes recommended by Hubbell, Roth & Clark from the interceptor on Evergreen to Southfield Road.

There is also a need to establish a schedule for when decisions have to be made. Craig thinks we should have meetings in the neighborhoods where the construction will take place.

Downey thinks Council should formulate a policy that would then be explained to the public. He feels strongly that the policy needs to be understood by the residents.

Kennedy believes that firm, factual explanations are important for people to understand Council's reasoning for selecting one route over another for the interceptor project.

Spallasso reported that the road work on 14 Mile Road does not have to be submitted to the Oakland County Road Commission until May 2001. The Bates versus Pierce decision has to be made within the next two to three months because the work on 14 Mile Road is dependent upon whether the sewer is going down Bates or Pierce.

Downey stated that the residents need to have an understanding as to why Council selects one route over another. Spallasso commented that there are less conflicts on Bates than Pierce. Pierce has a school and many other underground utilities with which to contend.

It was agreed that the Council meetings should be held at Berkshire or Beverly School when it comes to explaining the route for the interceptor that will go from Evergreen to Southfield Road. Council needs to make a decision on that route in 2002.

An agenda item will be scheduled for late November or early December to establish the north/south sewer route along either Bates or Pierce.

When the Sheridan/Amherst project is completed, it is recommended that an article be put in the Villager Newsletter and also on the Village website to introduce the topic of the Interceptor Route. It is recommended that a study session be held by Council in late September or early October of 2001 to decide how and what Council needs to communicate to the residents about the interceptor project.

A public information meeting will be held in June 2002.

Craig would support bonding out a portion of the sewers to get them in the ground quicker if the Village experiences more flooding.

Hanlin reported that she is obtaining quotes for insurance from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority and the Michigan Municipal League. MMRMA charges more in premium, but they provide coverage for sewer backups. They also have \$87 million in reserves which the MML does not.

MOTION by Munguia, supported by Walsh, to adjourn the meeting at 10:58 p.m.

Motion passes unanimously.

Andrew R. Craig
Council President

Ellen E. Marshall
Village Clerk