

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
April 12, 2021

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on April 12, 2021 at the Martin Village Office, 1609 North Main Street, Martin, Michigan.

Call to Order and Pledge to Flag: President Brinkhuis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

Roll Call: Members present: Brinkhuis, Doezema, Kelsey, Dykstra, Martin, J. Brinkhuis, Bouwman. Absent: None Virtual: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 15, 2021, and public hearing of March 15, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Rick Cain, County Commissioner. President Brinkhuis asked each visitor to state their purpose for attending and to discuss any issues they had for the Council to consider.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the agenda with as presented. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter
2. Thank you note from Tom Deneau family

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the report for March 2021 as submitted. Motion carried. Treasurer Kelsey and Clerk Doezema discussed offering direct deposit of paychecks to Village employees. They provided information from United Bank as to the cost and the process. Using direct deposit would save the Village from purchasing approximately 146 blank checks per year, and approximately \$18/year in postage. Discussion on adding Doezema to the people authorized to access the United Bank accounts on-line, to allow her to upload pay files to the system for the direct deposits. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Dykstra, to authorize the addition of Darcy Doezema to access the United Bank

accounts and to authorize setting up direct deposit for the Village employees. Motion carried.

Member J. Brinkhuis reported on her research of the “point to pay” system for paying utility bills on-line. This is the system used by both Otsego and Plainwell, with very different results. Otsego reports that many of their customers use this option, while Plainwell reports that the majority of customers still pay with check. The price to the Village is \$500 set up fee + \$50/month. In addition, customers would be paying the bank an additional 3% on top of their utility bill cost. Council discussed and decided to table this option as they don’t believe most Village customers want that additional cost levied on them.

- 2. Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Clerk Doezema. Motion made by Member Martin and supported by Member Dykstra to pay the bills, with an addition of \$225 to Schipper Farms for leaf removal, and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried. Member Doezema presented the monthly disbursement request for the USDA. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Kelsey, to authorize President Brinkhuis to sign the disbursement request for the USDA funds. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

- 1. Public Safety:** Member Dykstra discussed his research into better school crossing areas. Previously the Council discussed lighted crossing signs or other additional signage. Dykstra presented costs for signs and other options. The best option appeared to be an in-street pedestrian crossing pole/sign that would be placed in the crosswalk at E. Allegan and University when children would be traveling to school in the morning or home in the afternoon. Discussion on who would be placing it there daily. Member Doezema will call the school to get their reaction and opinion before we order the signage.
- 2. Public Works:** Member Martin reported that the big yellow truck needs tires and other work done, for which bills will be coming. Also that he purchased 32 ton of salt from Plainwell at a cost of \$72/ton. He asked if anyone knows what happened to the POW/MIA banners and service banners from Memorial Park area. It is believed that they wore out and were not replaced. Motion by Member Martin, supported by Member Dykstra, to spend up to \$500 to replace the banners. Motion carried. Member Martin discussed recent repairs to the Bobcat, and the estimate to build steps up to the loft in the barn (which proved to be cost prohibitive). He also discussed the desire to research and possibly create a DPW Supervisor position.
- 3. Streets:** Member Martin offered a quote from VanLaan to fix the storm drain manholes on Lee Street and the catch basins. At the same time, they would pour cement for the bench in honor of Don Flower. Motion by Member Martin, supported by Member Doezema, to contract the work with Van Laan, not to exceed \$6000. Motion carried. Member Martin reported on spring work being accomplished – sani sweep cleaning the sides of the road and hydrant flushing April 16 & 17. He presented a quote from AsphaltRestoration for \$3920 to repair E. Allegan past the railroad tracks. Motion by

Member Martin to contract with Asphalt Restoration, supported by Member Bouwman, for up to \$3920. Motion carried. Member Martin discussed plans for striping the streets and crosswalk. Decision was made to omit the parking lots at this time. Motion by Member Martin, supported by Member Dykstra, to pay up to \$11,000 for Accurate Striping to do the planned work. Motion carried.

4. **Sewer/Water:** President Brinkhuis provided an update on the lift station project. Work has begun. Member J. Brinkhuis provided an update on meter purchases and replacement. Member Doezema provided an update on the Water Tower project, which is slated for mid-summer. Member Doezema provided a quote from Peerless Midwest to do a well pump overhaul on pump #1, for approximately \$29,000. This is done one each pump every 10 years and pump #1 is due. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Martin, to contract the work as quoted. Motion carried. Member Doezema will contact Peerless and Luke Keyzer to schedule it, not to coincide with the Water Tower work. Member Martin provided an estimate from Cummins Bridgeway to do preventive maintenance on the 3 generators. Motion by Member Martin, supported by Member Doezema, to contract the work for up to \$2500. Motion carried.
5. **Finance:** No report.
6. **Ordinance and Policy:** No report.
7. **Civic Affairs:** Member Kelsey has started planning for the Memorial Day parade. Member Dykstra agreed to do parade line up. She also asked for input on a Grand Marshal.
8. **Five Year Planning:** No report.
9. **County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Rick Cain discussed the draft of the ORV ordinance, which the Council will address in Old Business. He also reported that the Health Department is doing great on vaccine efforts. He also discussed the American Rescue Plan, in which Allegan County is getting about \$23 million. Allegan County is in discussions on how best to use the money and distribute the money, giving local municipalities each an amount. The County is looking into using it to increase broadband internet access for county residents.

Old Business:

1. ORV Ordinance – Council members reviewed the proposed ordinance, discussed, and had no further input. Member Doezema will contact Scott Beltman and relay the information.
2. Train Committee – Member Doezema discussed the request to have the Village formally accept the trail committee document and assign representatives. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Doezema, to authorize President Brinkhuis to sign the trail committee agreement and to assign Darcy Doezema and Sara DeHaan as the Village representatives on the committee. Motion carried.

3. Water & Sewer Emergency Response Plans – Member Doezema presented the two plans and explained their use and purpose to the Council. She turned them over to Member J. Brinkhuis to update and maintain. Member Martin requested a copy for the DPW office.
4. DeWind Request to Tap – Discussion on the construction requirements and letter for Dewind. Member J. Brinkhuis will formalize it and send it on Tuesday.

New Business:

1. LaPointe Variance Request – The Council discussed the LaPointe request for variance to put a car port in his front yard. If he decides to move forward with the request, he will be required to pay \$300 for the cost of an advertisement and mailings to residents. The public hearing would be held May 10 prior to the regular council meeting. Member Doezema will contact LaPointe to discuss our thoughts on the matter.
2. Annual Street Commissioner Pay – At this time, it will be paid as previously approved.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Lawrence Bellgraph, Eunice Williams

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Kelsey to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk