

**Village of Martin**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 15, 2021**

**The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on March 15, 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 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

**Roll Call:** Members present: G. Brinkhuis, Doezema, Kelsey, Dykstra, Martin, J. Brinkhuis.  
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 February 8, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

**Recognition of Visitors:** Visitors present were: Sara DeHaan, Ryan Bouwman, Dave Zanger, Lisa Zanger. President Brinkhuis asked each visitor to state their purpose for attending and to discuss any issues they had for the Council to consider. Visitors were primarily in attendance to observe the meeting. Zanger had questions about control of speed on Village streets. The Council informed him of the steps they had taken, which include speed signs and asking for increased police presence. Questions were asked about hiring actual law enforcement, which has been researched in the past and rejected for the cost.

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

**Communications:** Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter

**Financial Items:**

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid and she sent her settlement report to Allegan County today. Visitors asked about our investment policy, which was explained. Policy requires that Village monies be kept in secure, government insured accounts. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Martin to approve the report for February 2021 as submitted. Motion carried.
2. **Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Clerk Doezema. Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Martin to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried. Member Doezema presented a request for disbursement of USDA

funds. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Kelsey, to request disbursement from USDA and to pay the associated invoice. Motion carried.

- 3. Budget Resolution:** Member Doezema presented Resolution 2021-3-8, General Appropriation Act for 2021-2022. She explained all parts of the resolution and the accompanying budget, consolidated by department. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Dykstra, to adopt Budget Resolution 2021-3-8.

Roll call vote: Ayes – G. Brinkhuis, Kelsey, Dykstra, Martin, J. Brinkhuis, Doezema

Nays – None

Absent – None

Resolution declared adopted.

### **Department Updates/Reports:**

- 1. Public Safety:** Member Dykstra discussed the addition of speed limit signs for the current electronic speed signs and the ones we will purchase this year. President Brinkhuis discussed signs he had seen that have flashing lights on them to bring attention to school crossing areas. Also discussed was possible additional striping in the school crossing areas. Member Martin is meeting with the striping company and will discuss addition markings on streets.
- 2. Public Works:** Member Martin discussed sidewalks that need repair, crosswalks, repairs on Lee Street drain, and Clean Earth is scheduled in April or May to clean out specific storm drains. Questions were asked about the publication being dropped around town, often times in the streets. Member Doezema said there is a number on the paper to stop delivery and it could be called to discuss the haphazard delivery. Member Doezema brought up raises for DPW and office hourly. Traditionally the Village gives a raise which is then effective on April 1. Discussion on the amount of raise. Social Security cost of living increase for 2020 was 1.3%. The Village traditionally gives around 3%. Motion by Member Dykstra, supported by Member Kelsey, to give DPW and office hourly employee a 3% raise in pay, effective April 1. Motion carried. Discussion on odors coming from Van Elderen plant has caused some complaints. President Brinkhuis will stay on top of it, noting that on the day in question, trucks carrying chicken manure had rolled through town. It is important to understand we are in an agricultural community and odors are a part of it sometime.
- 3. Streets:** Member Martin reported that plans are underway to do our usual spring DPW work. Prior to Memorial Day, there will be street repairs, Sani-Sweep road cleaning, and striping. He also discussed our salt supply, which is still plenty, and suggested that we buy some excess salt from City of Plainwell. He will check the prices and see what kind of deal we will get. Member Martin discussed the need to create a position for DPW supervisor and got the Council permission to research that.

**4. Sewer/Water:** Member Brinkhuis reported that training on the new meter reader will occur on March 23. She has not yet received the new hand-held reader and will contact Etna about it. Member Doezema reported that the manhole repair will be finished this week but some of them are not sitting well and making noise. Also, the pumps for the lift station project will be in March 29 and work will commence after that. Discussion on the recent transformer failure at the west lift station. Member Dykstra noticed smoke and reported it. Perceptive got involved and got a transformer from City of Plainwell, which solved the issue. Member Martin asked about plans to update Arc GIS with the manhole repairs and meter replacement. Member Brinkhuis has that on her list.

**5. Finance:** Member Doezema presented the following budget amendments:

101-101-956.000 raise from \$2000 to \$2500  
101-265-956.000 raise from \$1500 to \$1800  
101-301-805.000 raise from \$6500 to \$6600  
101-441-956.000 raise from \$4000 to \$4700  
101-450-921.000 raise from \$8000 to \$9000  
202-000-956.001 raise from \$1000 to \$2000  
203-478-702.000 raise from \$1500 to \$1800  
661-000-865.000 raise from \$3000 to \$3500

Member Doezema discussed the reasons for the budget amendments. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Martin, to accept the recommendations and amend the budget. Motion carried.

**6. Ordinance and Policy:** No report.

**7. Civic Affairs:** No report.

**8. Five Year Planning:** No report.

**9. County Commissioner:** No report.

**Old Business:** Trustee vacancy – Motion by member Kelsey, supported by Member Martin, to close the meeting at 8:25 to discuss personnel issues. Motion carried. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Dykstra, to open the meeting at 8:40. Motion carried. Resident Ryan Bouwman was selected as a trustee on the council to serve a term ending in 2024. Resident Sara DeHaan will be asked to assist with social media relations, the trail committee, and event planning.

**New Business:** None

**Recent Community Deaths:** The following names were submitted: Rita Oetman, Kathleen Groth, Ann Katje, Phil Salingue, Alice Boyce, Doug Stratton, James Coburn

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Dykstra to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk