

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
May 11, 2020

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on May 11, 2020 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, Rambadt, Doezema, Kelsey, Hunt, Dykstra, Flower
Absent: Deputy Clerk Brinkhuis

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2020, 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. Members added the following items to the agenda: Truth in Taxation, Part time DPW, Pony Express, and Fuel Tanks. Motion made by Member Rambadt and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter
2. Rep. Mary Whiteford newsletter
3. Email from owner of the old Pharmacy – Member Flower read the email, in which the new owner discussed the need for a special use permit to use the entire building as apartments. It is zoned Commercial. The Village had responded, asking for more information. The Village will contact PCI.

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid. She informed the Council of the current interest rates for the United Bank checking and savings accounts, which has dropped. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Hunt to approve the report for April 2020 as submitted. Motion carried. Treasurer Kelsey also discussed the Consumers bills for the LED street lights vs the traditional street lights, informing the Council that the LED lights cost half as much to operate. Kelsey also discussed the cost of the Kalamazoo Gazette, which has been

discussed at previous meetings. She explained the cost and the Council rejected the idea of also getting the paper 3 days a week in addition to the 7 day a week electronic copy. Treasurer Kelsey presented the annual Collection of Delinquent Tax Resolution 2020-5-1, allowing the Village to collect delinquent taxes until the end of February. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Doezema, to adopt the Property Tax Resolution. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brinkhuis, Rambadt, Kelsey, Dykstra, Flower, Hunt, Doezema
Nays: None
Absent: None
Resolution declared adopted.

2. **Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Clerk Doezema. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Hunt to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.
3. **Truth in Taxation:** Member Doezema presented the annual Truth in Taxation Resolution, which overrides the Headlee Amendment. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Flower, to adopt the Property Tax Resolution 2020-5-2. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brinkhuis, Rambadt, Kelsey, Dykstra, Flower, Hunt, Doezema
Nays: None
Absent: None
Resolution declared adopted

A discussion followed on how the taxpayer benefits from their property taxes to the Village and ways in which the Village could provide additional services or benefits.

Department Updates/Reports:

1. **Public Safety:** Member Rambadt reported that he has ordered the speed signs previously approved. They will be delivered within the month. He spoke to the Allegan County Road Commission who will potentially install the signs for us to assure the correct placement of the signs.
2. **Public Works:** No report.
3. **Streets:** Member Hunt reported that manhole repair has been rescheduled and line painting will be done soon. He also has a bid coming from A1 Asphalt for repair of Marshall Street and E. Allegan (east of the railroad tracks).
4. **Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported that the annual Consumer Confidence Report is done and will be submitted for review. Member Doezema reported that we have received the specifications from Dixon Engineering for the water tower repairs and it is advertised for bids. Bid opening is scheduled for May 27 at 2 p.m. in the Village office.
5. **Finance:** No report.
6. **Ordinance and Policy:** No report.

7. **Civic Affairs:** Discussion on Memorial Day activities. Member Kelsey reported that all surrounding communities have cancelled their parades and ceremonies, in keeping with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order. Several Council members expressed disagreement with those orders. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Doezema, to officially cancel the Memorial Day parade and ceremony. Roll call vote: Ayes – Rambadt, Kelsey, Flower, Doezema. Nays – Brinkhuis, Hunt, Dykstra. Absent – None. Motion carried.
8. **Five Year Planning:** No report.
9. **County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Rick Cain reported that 40% of Allegan County employees are working from home and that it is going very well. Currently there are no cases of COVID 19 in the Medical Care Facility nor the jail. As well, there are no jury trials being convened.

Old Business: None

New Business: (1) Pony Express – President Brinkhuis reported on a phone call from the leader of the mounted patrol that used to provide security during B93 event and other events. For 2021 they are planning an event to commemorate the 160th anniversary of the Pony Express. They requested to hold the event in Martin, as they appreciate our past hospitality. Motion by Member Flower, supported by Member Dykstra, to allow the event. Motion carried. More details will be forthcoming.

(2) Fuel Tank – President Brinkhuis discussed getting bids for an on-site fuel tank, which would potentially also be used by the fire department.

(3) Part time employee – Member Hunt discussed getting our part time employee, Mike Keene, started soon. Council agreed on a May 27th start date and that the two DPW employees would practice social distancing while working together.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: William Moore, Les Collick, Harry Hicks

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Dykstra to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk