

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
August 8, 2016

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on August 8, 2016 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, Wykstra, Flower. Absent: Rambadt, Hunt, and Deputy Clerk Merrill.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Flower to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 11, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Don Black, County Commissioner (7:15 arrival time), Andrew & Michelle Mason, Juli & Matt Eckman, and Don Rambadt. President Brinkhuis asked each visitor to state their purpose for attending and to discuss any issues they had for the Council to consider. Andrew primarily spoke for the Masons and Eckmans. They read the minutes of the July meeting on line and were concerned about the possible restrictions on use of the Interurban, specifically impacting those who live adjacent. At the July meeting, President Brinkhuis brought up the use of the Interurban and some concerns that he was made aware of, specifically driving on it and using it as a roadway. Complaints have been made regarding safety, specifically where the interurban crosses 10th Street. The Masons and Eckmans also were concerned at the mention of a letter going out to residents, which they assumed was directed at them. President Brinkhuis explained that although a letter was drafted, we decided to not send it, unless we found some clear usage information from Consumers Energy. At this time, the residents were asked to please avoid driving on the Interurban, except to get to the back part of their property. The Masons also asked if there is anything we can do about the high water/sewer bills. Member Flower explained that the sewer rate is based on what we have to pay Plainwell and it can't be reduced.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Wykstra to approve the agenda with additions/as presented. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter
2. Region 8 Notes
3. Pipeline Awareness Newsletter
4. Notice of Flood Risk Review Meeting

5. Notice from PNC about closing date and safe deposit box – Member Flower suggested we get a safe instead of a bank box. He will check prices.

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Member Doezema gave the Treasurers report, reporting that all bills were paid and we reconciled with the bank. She also reported that our money market accounts at PNC have been closed and moved to Premium High Yield savings accounts at United Bank. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Kelsey to approve the report for July 2016 as submitted. Motion carried.
2. **Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Member Doezema, with the addition of payment to Asphalt Restoration for \$5535 from Major Street. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Doezema to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

1. **Public Safety:** No report.
2. **Public Works:** No report.
3. **Streets:** Member Wykstra reported that the crack seal is done.
4. **Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported on a recommendation by MI Tank Systems regarding the water tower. They submitted an estimate of \$7850 to line the water tank and do recommended repairs. Additions to that cost would be for Perceptive and to clean the sediment out. Discussion on whether we really need to line the tank. Member Flower and Member Doezema will do some research and then set up a meeting with Tom Rook and others to make a recommendation. President Brinkhuis recommended that we do the \$3000 repairs. Member Kelsey asked how the Shine Auto account was doing. Member Flower said we have been getting payments, the amount is above what is actually owed each month. Discussion on whether we should continue to take an aggressive approach with Shine. It is believed that the owner also owns a number of successful businesses and even though he complains about the bill, he is able to pay it. The Utility Billing department will continue to take a hard line and insist on payments to be made in full and on time.
5. **Finance:** No report.
6. **Ordinance and Policy:** No report.
7. **Civic Affairs:** No report. Community Wide garage sales are August 12 & 13.

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

9. **County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Don Black handed out the annual “State of the County” report as well as the synopsis of the July 14 meeting. He had nothing to highlight from the meeting but said if anyone has opinions on courthouse security they could email him with their ideas.

Old Business:

1. Zach Roberts request – Member Kelsey asked whether this issue has been resolved. Member Doezema explained that she had a conversation with an engineer from Dixon Engineering, who cautioned against putting the requested equipment on the tower and suggested we should deal with Charter directly, not Mr. Roberts. After that conversation, 3 of the Council members heard this explanation and stated their objections to the project. Member Doezema relayed this information to Zach, telling him that he needed to contact us if this is still worth pursuing, but that 4 Council members had already stated strong objections to the request. No further word from Zach.

New Business: None

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Garland Black, Thomas Northrup, Cathy Tuinstra, Dirk Elferink, John Langford, Jane Billings

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Flower to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk