

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
February 8, 2016

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on February 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, Rambadt, Doezema, Kelsey, Wykstra, Flower, Hunt and Deputy Clerk Merrill.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Rambadt and supported by Member Hunt to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2016, and the special meeting of February 2, 2016, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Don Black, County Commissioner, Don Rambadt, Paul VanElderen, Jason Dykstra, & Denise Dykstra. President Brinkhuis asked each visitor to state their purpose for attending and to discuss any issues they had for the Council to consider. Paul asked the Council if they had any further questions for him, regarding the proposed letter to City of Plainwell he presented on February 2. President Brinkhuis explained to Paul that after consideration, the Council is reluctant to have the Village of Martin included in the letter. Denise and Jason had nothing to add.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Hunt to approve the agenda with additions of Odyssey of the Mind and Advertisement for Deputy Treasurer. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter
2. Region 8 Regional Planning Notes
3. Tom Deneau message regarding his retirement and his replacement
4. PCI email

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rambadt gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid and we reconciled with the bank. She highlighted the monies transferred for equipment rental and for payroll. Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Doezema to approve the report for January 2016 as submitted. Motion carried.

2. **Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Member Doezema. Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Wykstra to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.
3. **Budget Spreadsheet:** Member Doezema presented an updated budget spreadsheet and noted the changes that were made as a result of the workshop. After discussions with the Street Commissioner and receiving one estimate, she added \$55,000 in expenditures to the Local Street Fund, to resurface Lee Street. Discussion on changes and other concerns. President Brinkhuis expressed concern over how much money we have in our accounts. Both Member Rambadt and Member Doezema assured the Council that there is ample money in the accounts, as long as we keep our spending close to, or below, our annual revenue. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Rambadt, to approve the changes and the proposed budget. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

1. **Public Safety:** Member Wykstra reminded the Council of the Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise on February 10 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clipper Room. Interested people can observe the exercise. On February 22 at 8 a.m. there will be an actual exercise involving students and staff. President Brinkhuis discussed the fire department equipment donation we do each year. We traditionally purchase an item for the fire department to use, which also can be used for Village purposes. The fire department would like approximately \$500 worth of traffic cones, which the Village uses as well. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Hunt, to purchase up to \$500 worth of equipment to be determined at the fire department's discretion. Motion carried.
2. **Public Works:** Member Wykstra reported that we are still looking for a pick up truck. Efforts to find something at auto sales in Florida were not successful so we will look elsewhere.
3. **Streets:** Member Wykstra discussed the estimate from Michigan Paving of approximately \$47,000. We plan on doing Lee Street and also to include portions of University and Chalmers. More quotes and estimates to come. Member Flower reported that the CMAQ application to has been submitted to the State.
4. **Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported that he is getting data and is ready to finish the budget. Also that the next joint sewer meeting with Plainwell is March 3, 2016. Member Wykstra reported that the #1 well pump isn't running right. Butch Bender is trying to figure it out. He comes from Cassopolis so we pay a lot for travel. Discussion on who we could get locally for future work. Will ask Neeson who they get in Plainwell, and also could ask Chad Kraai. Member Doezema told of the recent interview with Attorney Ken Lane. Both she and Member Kelsey were impressed with him and presented his proposal for services. As a side note, Mr. Lane discouraged the use of the Village name on the letter from VanElderen's to Plainwell.

5. **Finance:** No report.
6. **Ordinance and Policy:** No report.
7. **Civic Affairs:** No report.
8. **Five Year Planning:** No report.
9. **County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Don Black distributed the synopsis from the January 28, 2016 meeting, highlighting his “no” vote on whether to have a large-scale meeting to discuss changes and decisions by the 911 commission. He thinks more would get done and be better conveyed to municipalities through written correspondence. He also discussed recent strategic planning sessions, taking the 5 year plan out to 15 years. Commissioner Black discussed possible recycling language for upcoming elections, and that if the language is put on the ballot, individuals will no longer be able to opt out of the recycling plan. That will help Townships and others cover the cost of recycling for everyone.

Old Business:

1. VanElderen Sewer Issue: Member Doezema restated our desire to keep our name off of the proposed letter from VanElderen Inc. to the City of Plainwell.

New Business:

1. Closing on Property: Member Doezema reported that closing is going to happen soon, possibly as early as March 2016. Discussion on who will sign the paperwork at closing. Motion by Member Wykstra, supported by Member Flower, to approve the sale of the former Boysen Property (Lots 164, 165, 166, and 168) and to authorize Treasurer Anita Rambadt to sign paperwork and represent the Village at closing. Motion carried.
2. Landscape Plans: Member Doezema informed the Council that she contacted Mike of Honeytree Nursery to develop a landscaping plan for the watertower and downtown area, which would complement the landscape plan for Dollar General. He will do the design for free and give us a quote on the proposed work.
3. Audit Letter: Member Doezema discussed the engagement letter from Yeo & Yeo. The Council agreed we should sign it and proceed.
4. Summer Festival: Member Doezema informed the Council that July 23 is the date set for the Summer Festival. President Brinkhuis said we need a fence around the big ditch before then.
5. Odyssey of the Mind: Member Kelsey informed the Council that on February 27 there will be many people coming to the Village for this event and wondered whether the school has a plan for overflow parking. She will check with Dr. Harnish.
6. Advertisement for Deputy Treasurer – Member Doezema distributed the verbiage for the ad. After discussion, the requirement of “must be a Village resident” was added.

Commissioner Black informed the Council that no ad should be required and that the selection of and hiring of a deputy should be the decision of the elected official they would serve (in this case, the Treasurer). Member Doezema will place the ad in the Shopper's Guide for one week.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Gil Morrell.

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Flower to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted 2/17/2016, Darcy Doezema, Village Clerk