

**Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
December 8, 2014**

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on December 8, 2014, 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 8:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited.

Roll Call: Members present: Brinkhuis, Rambadt, Flower, Doezema, Wykstra, and Deputy Clerk Merrill. Members Hunt and Kelsey were absent.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Rambadt to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 10, 2014, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Don Black, County Commissioner, 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. Don Black deferred until later in the agenda. Don Rambadt had no comment.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. President Brinkhuis added New Business: Woodcarvings. Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Rambadt to approve the agenda with additions. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter & information from Natalie VanHouten
2. Christmas cards

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rambadt gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid and we reconciled with the bank. We earned \$107.56 in interest on the money market accounts. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Wykstra to approve the report for November 2014 as submitted. Motion carried.
2. **Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Deputy Clerk Merrill, adding the invoice from VanLaan for \$6206 for sidewalk repairs (General Fund). Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Wykstra to pay the bills, with additions, and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.
3. **Budget Input and Workshop:** Member Doezema reminded the Council that it is budget time again. She asked that members to think about their areas of responsibility and see

what they need for the next fiscal year. The workshop will be scheduled sometime in January, the date to be decided at the January 12th meeting.

- 4. Charter:** Member Wykstra discussed the desire to switch the office and DPW garage to Charter phones and internet. He and Member Flower will research and make the change if it appears to be a good deal.

Department Updates/Reports:

- 1. Public Safety:** No report
- 2. Public Works:** Member Wykstra discussed the Cummins Bridgeway proposal for generator maintenance. A three year contract would save us just over \$400. We will make the decision in January. Member Wysktra proposed that we pay the DPW employees a bonus again this year. Motion by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Doezema to give the two DPW employees each a \$200 bonus this year. Motion carried.
- 3. Streets:** Member Flower reported that we missed the Rural Task Force meeting but we will email them to get on the schedule for road work and future meetings. Also, the work on the bridge at the 131 overpass will begin in February.
- 4. Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported that there are two new water connections in town. He also reported on the recent joint sewer meeting in Plainwell. They have leased a new bioxide station which will cost the Village approximately \$240/month but it will better regulate the addition of bioxide. We hope this will save money overall. Shine Auto Wash paid \$500 on the day we tried to turn off the water and promised the balance on December 12. If there is not payment on or before the 12th, water will be shut off on the 15th.
- 5. Finance:** No report.
- 6. Ordinance and Policy:** No report.
- 7. Civic Affairs:** Member Rambadt reported that the parade was well attended.
- 8. Five Year Planning:** No report.
- 9. County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Don Black provided a synopsis of the recent Board of Commissioners Meeting of November 13, 2014, highlighting the Sheriff Department's purchase of military surplus equipment. He also reported that there is still a need for people to serve on the Department of Human Services Board and the Commission on Aging.

Old Business:

1. Election – Member Doezema suggested Council members who were recently re-elected take the oath of office at the conclusion of the meeting.
2. Council Compensation – the Finance Committee recommended that the salary for the Clerk, Member Doezema, be increased by \$150/month to bring her pay in line with the scope of duties and amount of hours worked. Total salary will be \$400/month effective December 2014. Motion by Member Flower and supported by Member Rambadt to accept the Finance Committee’s recommendation. Motion carried. Member Doezema abstained from the vote.
3. December meeting time – Member Doezema reminded the Council that the December meeting time is 8 p.m., in keeping with the Charter requirements.

Old Business:

1. Marshall Plastic – President Brinkhuis led a discussion on the land near Marshall Plastic, which is owned by the Village. Motion by Member Doezema and supported by Member Rambadt to give the land to John Roggow and Marshall Plastic, with them paying all legal and other costs to transfer ownership. Motion carried. They will also need to connect to the water system.
2. At 8:35 p.m., motion by Member Doezema and supported by Member Flower to move to a closed session to discuss personnel issue. Motion carried. The Council returned to regular session at 8:48 p.m. Motion by Member Doezema and supported by Member Wykstra to terminate Luke Keyzer, effective 12/31, pending a conversation with Dan Neeson. Motion Carried.

New Business:

1. Winter Fun Event – Member Doezema reported on the upcoming winter fun event, for which there will be an ice rink. More details will come in January. Member Doezema will check on liability.
2. Council Appreciation Dinner – Discussion on when to have the dinner. Member Doezema will begin scouting locations and dates and report back during the January meeting.
3. Woodcarvings – Something needs to be done before the carvings rot away. Discussion on what to do and when. The Council will investigate further.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Crystal Rook.

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Wykstra and supported by Member Flower to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk