

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2020

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on November 9, 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, Deputy Clerk Brinkhuis. Absent: None Virtual: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Hunt to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 12, 2020, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Rick Martin, recently elected Trustee. 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. Motion made by Member Hunt and supported by Member Rambadt 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. Change of Ownership for Martin Tire
3. Jehovah Witness mailing
4. Email from citizen – Member Flower reviewed the email sent by a citizen who claims the DPW truck hit their trash can. The incident is being investigated. The Council determined that if the resident is 100% sure that the Village truck did the damage, that we will reimburse them if they incur any cost getting a new can. Member Doezema will follow up.

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid. She noted that we have made our final payment on the City of Plainwell Consent Agreement. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Rambadt to approve the report for October 2020 as submitted. Motion carried. Member Doezema informed the Council that some of the funds will look different in the coming months, in response to USDA requirements for the Sewer Fund.

- 2. Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Deputy Clerk Brinkhuis, highlighting some expenditures made in support of the USDA loan. Motion made by Member Flower and supported by Member Hunt to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

- 1. Public Safety:** Member Rambadt had no report; however, Rick Martin did remark that he thinks the speed signs are doing a great job. He observes many cars slowing down when they see the speed on the sign.
- 2. Public Works:** Member Hunt had no report. Member Doezema informed the Council that the DEBTS crew from Allegan County would start work on Tuesday, November 10.
- 3. Streets:** Member Hunt had no report. Rick Martin suggested that DPW look at the drain on West Allegan near the church, which appears to be clogging up with leaves.
- 4. Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported that in a meeting last week the Village closed on the USDA loan, with Brinkhuis, Kelsey, Flower and Doezema in attendance. After the loan closing was a pre-construction meeting with SELGE. Work on lift stations is scheduled to begin January 6. Member Flower also informed that required PFAS testing will be done this week. Member Flower discussed the need for a new hand-held meter reader. The one we currently use is not performing well and is no longer supported by Etna. The new reader would be used on both the old meters and the new ones, using radio controls, when they are acquired. Motion by Member Kelsey, supported by Member Doezema, to spend up to \$10,000 on a new hand held reader. Motion carried.
- 5. Finance:** Member Doezema presented final copies of the recent audit, offering to each Council member and informing that we will retain the copies and have them available upon request.
- 6. Ordinance and Policy:** No report.
- 7. Civic Affairs:** Member Kelsey reported speaking to the school and the PTO about their plans for the Christmas events at the school. Due to COVID restrictions, the school will not hold their annual dinner or after-parade events, and requested that the Village also not have a parade. At this time the Village will cancel the parade. Member Kelsey also reported that the City of Otsego will be cutting down the massive pine tree on school property, for use in their holiday decorations. Kelsey will begin looking for a replacement tree, hopefully to be donated, to be used in decorations next year.
- 8. Five Year Planning:** No report.
- 9. County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Rick Cain was not present.

Old Business: None

New Business: President Brinkhuis made note that this would be the final meeting for Trustees Rambadt and Hunt. He remarked on the great job they have done, thanked them for their service to the community, and invited them to participate in the Council in the future.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Steve McGuire, Steve Kent, Laverne DeMann, Jeremy McWilliams, Thomas Eymann, Richard Shanks, Michael Retherford, Paul Scheidel

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Rambadt to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk