

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
October 12, 2020

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on October 12, 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 September 14, 2020, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Mike Keene, DPW. 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. Mike asked the Council for thoughts on how well he is doing the DPW job and whether they have heard any complaints. No concerns were raised. Rick Cain joined the meeting late and addressed the council later.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. Motion made by Member Rambadt and supported by Member Hunt to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema had no correspondence to share.

Financial Items:

- 1. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid. She highlighted that most taxes have been received and there is just under \$7500 delinquent, which is typical. She thanked Anita Rambadt for a suggestion she made when tax bills were being printed, which allowed the Village to collect \$200 which had been outstanding. She also reported that she moved \$50,000 from checking to savings to maintain the correct level in checking. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Hunt to approve the report for September 2020 as submitted. Motion carried.
- 2. Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Deputy Clerk Brinkhuis, highlighting the Lumen bill and the final auditing bill. President Brinkhuis explained the Lumen bill and the need to fix the lights on the water tower. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Hunt to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

1. **Public Safety:** No report.

2. **Public Works:** Member Hunt reported that DPW is going well and the equipment is ready for winter. Member Doezema discussed trucks parked in the water tower parking lot, which has been approved by the Council. However, one truck has occasionally been left running all night and all day. Regardless of the reason, this is not a good situation for the nearby residents or the environment. Member Dykstra recently spoke to the truck driver about our concerns. If the truck is found to be running for long periods again, it will be address formally.

3. **Streets:** No report, but salt can be ordered from MI Deal after November 1.

4. **Sewer/Water:** Member Flower reported that the sewer lift station project is on track to start January 6. He also reported that DPW Keene is in training to read meters. Member Doezema discussed a resident who has been told to have a backflow preventer installed on his irrigation system. No response had come from the resident so she will send another letter. Member Doezema presented the latest documents from the USDA and the bond attorney, which need approval from the Council to move forward. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Flower, to adopt Resolution 2020-10-5, authorizing the incurrence of indebtedness regarding the sanitary sewer system. Roll call vote: Ayes – Brinkhuis, Rambadt, Kelsey, Dykstra, Flower, Hunt, Doezema. Nays – None. Absent – None. Resolution declared adopted. Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Flower, to adopt Resolution 2020-10-6, authorizing issuance of sanitary sewer system revenue bonds. Roll call vote: Ayes – Brinkhuis, Rambadt, Kelsey, Dykstra, Flower, Hunt, Doezema. Nays – None. Absent – None. Resolution declared adopted. Member Flower discussed the delinquent utility bills for the car wash, which will be sent to the Township Treasurer to be included on the taxes.

5. **Finance:** Motion by Member Doezema, supported by Member Dykstra, to amend budget GL 101-101-805 from \$2400 to \$3000, for audit expenses. Motion carried. Budget amended.

6. **Ordinance and Policy:** No report.

7. **Civic Affairs:** Discussion on Halloween and whether we have any jurisdiction over whether it is cancelled or remains the same. This is not a Village event so it will be up to individuals to participate or not. Member Flower asked what hours we recommend for Trick or Treating, in case he is contacted. Member Doezema will post the hours of 4:30 – 7:30 on the facebook page, as a recommendation.

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

9. **County Commissioner:** County Commissioner Rick Cain asked the Council what provisions they would like to see in an off-road ordinance. He also reported that the courthouse project is going forth, even though the estimates are coming in high. He discussed an item on the ballot to restore the millage back to 5.7 mils. Because of the Headlee rollback, the amount of money the County can collect for taxes is down to 4.5 mils, resulting in about a \$5 million dollar loss in money to provide services.

Old Business:

New Business:

1. Pharmacy signs – Member Doezema asked the Council if they have any thoughts on what to do with the signs off the pharmacy. Member Doezema will ask Keith at the Clipper Café if he wants one.
2. Council Compensation – Discussion on whether to raise the council compensation for meetings. No suggestions to raise it above the \$25 which it is now. Discussion on a raise for the Clerk and Treasurer, which can happen every 2 years. The last raise was 2018. The practice has been to vote to give them a raise that is equal to what the DPW and office workers have received. Motion by Member Dykstra, supported by Member Hunt, to allow a 6% raise for both the Clerk and Treasurer, beginning December 1. Motion carried.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Gerald Griffin, Elaine Keene, Ron Westendorp

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Rambadt to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk