

Village of Martin
Regular Meeting
September 14, 2021

The Martin Village Council met for its regular meeting on September 14, 2021 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, Dykstra, Martin, J. Brinkhuis, Bouwman. Absent: None Virtual: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Member Kelsey and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 9, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Visitors: Visitors present were: Rick Cain, County Commissioner and Mark Witte, Director of Community Mental Health. President Brinkhuis asked each visitor to state their purpose for attending and to discuss any issues they had for the Council to consider. Mark addressed the Council, discussing a recent letter he sent asking the Council to consider donating some of ARPA funds to help with the cost of the new CMH facility. He explained that the USDA loan CMH got fell short of the construction bids by around \$2 million. He discussed the need for the new facility and the improved location and answered questions from the Council.

Approval of Agenda: Member Doezema presented the agenda. Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member J. Brinkhuis to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Communications: Clerk Doezema reviewed the following received correspondence:

1. J.C. Wheeler Library newsletter
2. Thank you from Second Reformed Church
3. Update from Clark Station on vehicle registration
4. Note of appreciation regarding DPW
5. Email from resident regarding sewer smell on West Allegan. Member Martin explained some of the reasons for the smell, much of which is due to the car wash no longer providing the volume of water through the system.

Financial Items:

1. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kelsey gave her report, reporting that all bills were paid and most of the property tax money has been received. Motion made by Member Doezema and supported by Member Dykstra to approve the report for August 2021 as submitted. Motion carried.

- 2. Payment of Bills:** The bills were reviewed by Clerk Doezema. She presented an older bill from Wightman that was in dispute but now should be paid. Motion by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Martin, to approve the disbursement request to the USDA and to pay the Wightman bill of \$20,350. Motion carried. Discussion on the reason for the Wightman dispute, which stemmed from the pump failures at the north lift station. Member Martin provided pictures of the new pumps, which are working well. Wightman is setting up a meeting with members of the Council (specifically G. Brinkhuis, Martin, and J. Brinkhuis) to discuss some costs that were due to the ineffective pumps that were originally installed. Wightman is bearing the majority of the cost and wants to discuss option. Motion by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Doezema to allow the sewer committee to agree to pay the difference in cost of the originally installed pumps vs the current pumps. Motion carried. Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Martin to pay the bills and any forthcoming utility bills. Motion carried.

Department Updates/Reports:

- 1. Public Safety:** Member Dykstra updated the Council on the additional speed signs. He recently ordered them, as per approved in the budget, from Allegan County Road Commission John Sharpe for \$5973.00. When received, the road commission will also install them. Discussion on the crosswalk at the school, which Member Martin is trying to get done. Also the cones purchased for the school and whether we need to purchase more.
- 2. Public Works:** Member Martin reported that everything is going well and he gave praise to the work done by Mike. Everything is getting done as planned.
- 3. Streets:** Member Martin reported that everything is going well with streets. Motion by Member Martin and supported by Member Kelsey to purchase 15 new nylon American flags and 5 replacement poles for up to \$500. Motion carried.
- 4. Sewer/Water:** Members G. Brinkhuis and Martin provided an update of the recent water tower and sewer work. Member Martin thanked the entire construction team and credited them for a great job on the water tower project. He provided pictures of the inside and outside of the water tower and discussed the entire project. He also provided pictures of the new pumps installed at the north lift station.
- 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 Rick Cain discussed recent meetings in the county, which have been all about COVID and mostly about mask mandates. He supported changing the mandates to “strongly recommended” rather than “required” but was overruled by the State and the Health Department.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Halloween – The fire department requested that the Village support requesting residents to observe Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 30 this year. The Council agreed to support that request and will publish it on facebook and the Shopper’s Guide.
2. Marijuana Ordinance – Member Doezema discussed the recent petition to overturn the Village Marijuana Ordinance opting out of facilities in the Village. Both the Township and Village sent letters to the attorney for the petitioners. Doezema will provide copies of the letters to Council members. At this time, no further action is required. If this moves forward, the request to overturn the ordinance will be on the November 2022 ballot.

Recent Community Deaths: The following names were submitted: Nancy Carpenter, Michael LeValley

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Dykstra and supported by Member Bouwman to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Darcy Doezema, Clerk