

**VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

JULY 8, 2024

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ATTENDANCE: *Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, Smith, Stuut*
ABSENT: *Hedgspeth*
OTHER IN ATTENDANCE: *Manager McLean, Superintendent Anthony, Engineer Woodhams, Administrative Assistant Storm-Artis*
Motion by Cole, supported by Stuut to excuse Hedgspeth. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.
4. WELCOME TO PUBLIC
5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING BEING RECORDED
6. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
President Cole added \$13,070.09 to the bills for a new total of \$70,446.84, New Business E Proposal of Changes to Policy Section 6, New Business F Water/Sewer Relief Request From David Ballinger, and New Business G Police Union.
7. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion by Smith, supported by Stuut to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
8. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF **JUNE 24, 2024**
Motion by Begeman, supported by Stuut to approve the minutes of June 24, 2024. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
9. BILLS TO BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF **\$57,376.75**
\$13,070.09
Total \$70,446.84
Motion by Stuut, supported by McLean to approve the bills in the amount of \$70,446.84. Roll Call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
10. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM *None*
11. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. FINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIR STUUT
No meeting, no report

- B. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – CHAIR COLE
No meeting, no report
- C. DPW COMMITTEE – CHAIR SMITH
No meeting, no report
- D. LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE – CHAIR DANIEL
No meeting, no report
- E. PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE – CHAIR BEGEMAN
- F. *No meeting, no report*
- G. POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – CHAIR HEDGSPETH
No meeting, no report
- H. ZONING AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE – CHAIR MCLEAN
No meeting, no report
- I. PLANNING COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT – LIAISON STUUT
No meeting, no report
- J. DDA COMMITTEE – CHAIR ROB BROOKS
Meeting 6/27/2024 President Cole stated the DDA signed a contract with an artist for the park sculpture, and invested funds into a CD with higher interest return.
- K. KATS –
No meeting, no report

12. STAFF REPORTS

- A. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- *Superintendent Anthony informed council that DPW had been busy with lots of roadside mowing and trimming. With the recent storms there was excessive amounts of brush during the monthly brush/bag clean up that needed two days to complete with 3 to 4 people working on pick up and the fallen tree in the park was taken care of. He spoke about the completion of the 2” water tap installation for West Point Hills. He also explained The Bob-O-Link drain system was being updated but due to the upcoming Village projects, the upgrades can be completed during those projects instead of immediately. Superintendent Anthony spoke about the newest DPW hire (Tim) passing his certifications so now all the DPW employees are certified and can expand their certifications to higher levels going forward.*
- B. ENGINEER’S REPORT – *Engineer Woodhams spoke about holding pre-construction meeting and signing the bonds for the Watermain project. The Village wants to set a community meeting to inform residents about the project and what will be accomplished this year and next. The area next to Bird Dog containing the “bubble/dome” seating will need to be removed due to construction on that parcel. Manager McLean stated she had spoken to Bird Dog regarding these requirements of removal and timeframes for this construction to be completed. Engineer Woodhams explained that due to UDSA regulations, project construction materials must be stored in the municipality of the project and he was working with Superintendent Anthony on finding appropriate storage locations. He also stated the Ryan Road project would be started by end of July and chip sealing would be done in August. Manager McLean asked about dates so the Village Office could inform the residents in that area regarding the construction timeframe.*

C. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – *Attorney Graham Not Present*

13. OLD BUSINESS

A. POLICE TUITION AGREEMENT

Manager McLean spoke about her conversation with former recruit, but wanted a decision from council on the exact amount to be repaid. Discussion took place regarding the initially presented amounts including payroll costs being repaid.

Motion by Smith, supported by McLean to have the former employee repay \$43,111.59. Roll call vote taken. Daniel, McLean, and Smith voted in favor, Begeman, Cole, and Stuuu voted no. Motion failed.

Further discussion took place.

Motion by Stuuu to have the former employee repay \$18,248.46. Motion died due to lack of support.

Further discussion took place.

Motion by Begeman, supported by Daniel to have the former employee repay 50% of the wages, \$4,000.00 in deductible, and \$14,248.46 in education and supply expenses for a total of \$30,680.02. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, and Smith voted in favor. Stuuu voted no. Motion carried.

14. NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVE ADVANCE PAYMENT OF THE DESIGN PHASE ESTIMATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$83,006.00 AND OBTAIN VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN COI FOR PROJECT

Superintendent Anthony explained that this payment was required to begin the Amtrak project. Discussion included what the COI is, Certificate of Insurance, and where the money was budgeted from.

Motion by Stuuu, supported by McLean to approve the advance payment of \$83,006.00 for the design phase and get Certificate of Insurance for the Amtrak bridge project. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, Stuuu voted yes. Smith voted no. Motion carried.

B. DECLARE LIFT STATION #2 PROJECT AN EMERGENCY TO EXPEDITE HIRING A CONTRACTOR

Superintendent Anthony explained the lift station was currently running on by-pass systems. He requested this project be designated an emergency to start this project earlier, as it was budgeted for and planned to commence later in fiscal year.

Motion by Cole, supported by Smith to declare the Lift Station #2 project an emergency. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

C. BUILDING INSPECTOR INVOICE ISSUES-requesting to be sent to Finance Committee

Motion by Smith, supported by Stuuu to send to Finance Committee. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

D. APPROVE NEW COMPUTERS FOR VILLAGE OFFICES- *\$10,000 was budgeted for 4 computers*
Motion by Smith, supported by Begeman to approve the purchase of new computers for the Village office for \$6,878.00. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

E. PROPOSAL OF CHANGES TO POLICY SECTION 6

Discussion took place regarding how these changes would apply to the current employees and new hires. Superintendent Anthony questioned how it would affect the current fiscal liability.

Motion by Begeman, supported by Smith to approve the proposed changes to Policy Section 6. Roll call vote taken. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, and Stuut voted in favor. McLean and Smith voted no. Motion failed as it did not meet a super majority for the expenditure of funds.

Further Discussion took place.

Motion by Stuut, supported by Begeman to table until next meeting. Roll call vote taken. Stuut voted in favor. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, and Smith voted no. Motion failed.

Further discussion took place.

Motion by McLean, supported by Smith to send to Policy and Personnel Committee. Voice vote taken. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, and Smith voted in favor. Stuut voted no. Motion carried.

F. REQUEST FOR WATER/SEWER RELIEF FROM DAVE BALLINGER

Motion by Daniel, supported by Stuut to sent request to DPW Committee for review. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

G. POLICE UNION VOLUNTARY RECOGNITION OF BARGAINING AGENT

Manager McLean explained that the officers had expressed interest to POLC (Police Officers Labor Council) to organize a union for the department. She explained that Attorney Graham advised not to voluntarily recognize the union.

Motion by Daniel, supported by Begeman not to voluntarily recognize the POLC as the exclusive bargaining agent. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

15. COMMUNICATIONS

VAN BUREN CONSERVATION DISTRICT JUNE 2024 PROGRAMS REPORT
President Cole stated members could review this information.

16. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

Superintendent Anthony stated Bird Dog had wanted to discuss their dumpster, a possibility of a "business district" dumpster that would be used by multiple businesses in the Historic Business District and paid for by the DDA. He asked that the issue be sent to the DPW Committee. Discussion took place including where this would be located and how many businesses could actually take advantage of the proposed dumpster.

Motion by Daniel, supported by Stuut to send to DPW Committee. Voice vote taken. Begeman, Cole, Daniel, McLean, Stuut voted in favor. Smith voted no.

17. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL *None*

18. ADJOURNMENT @ **8:12 PM**

Motion by Smith, supported by Begeman to adjourn. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.