

VILLAGE OF GAINES
Regular Council Meeting
March 14, 2018

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by President Sam Stiff at the Village of Gaines Office, 113 Genesee Street at 7:00 p.m. with a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Emily Alexander, Barbara Ferris, Melissa Neal, Diane Nowak, President Sam Stiff, Treasurer Demi Manutes-Pyles, and Clerk Vicky Sandlin
Absent: Carol Erickson and James Savage

Police Report

Report received prior to meeting from Chief Mark Schmitzer and on file.

Audience Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

*Motion Alexander, second Nowak to approve February 14, 2018 Regular Council Meeting minutes and February 14, 2018 Budget Workshop minutes as presented.
All Ayes – Motion carried*

Treasurer Report

A. Bank Balance - \$235,386; Investment Balance - \$323,394

Approval of The Bills

*Motion Alexander, second Ferris to approve bills as presented.
Roll call: All Ayes – Motion carried*

DPW Report

Street Commissioner Harold DeMott reported that there was no road patch available until the end of April, so the DPW used chip-asphalt to fill temporarily

Fire Board Report

Report received prior to meeting from President Stiff and on file.

Building Inspector Report

None

President's Report

- Request to purchase 117/119 Genesee Street from Land Bank.
- Eavesthrough fell off, ledge to be repaired or removed. We are waiting for bids.
- Ordinances sent to Attorney Gildner for review.
- Lamp post will be installed once weather breaks.
- Attorney Gildner is reviewing information we received from Legal Services of Eastern Michigan regarding reasonable accommodations for handicapped.
- Attended Gaines Township meeting Wednesday, March 7, 2018.
- Attended 911 Consortium Tuesday, March 13, 2018 regarding new pagers that don't work.
- Attorney Gildner is reviewing lease agreement for Depot Library
- New furnace/air conditioner was inspected February 22, 2018 by Bob Davis.
- Awaiting an update from Habitat for Humanity

Unfinished Business

Sidewalk Maintenance – Dustin Drabek, Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Control Field Representative presented his findings and recommendations regarding the Village

sidewalks in identifying existing and potential liability exposures. He shared a sample sidewalk ordinance, ordinance hyperlinks (to Grandville, Grand Haven, Otsego, and Wayland), sidewalk ordinance for the Village of Goodrich, and a sidewalk inspection checklist.

Drabek recommended, and the council agreed, that next steps were; (1) communicate options to residents and receive feedback of their opinions, (2) adopt a sidewalk ordinance, and (3) begin an inspection program.

Options for the sidewalks are fix, replace, or remove. The Village is not required to have sidewalks due to a school being present, however, it is highly recommended for safety reasons.

The ordinance would indicate standards of proper sidewalk maintenance/repairs and safety (includes snow/ice removal) and who is responsible for maintenance/repairs and safety and/or failure of such. The majority of municipalities of our size are 50/50 between the municipality and the homeowner. Sidewalks are in the Village budget and council would work to make sure any decision was fair and equitable.

The inspection program will include an annual spring inspection, which would record the state of all sidewalks, along with documentation, and in some cases pictures. It would also record all recommended and performed maintenance/repairs (i.e. painting/highlighting any potential problem areas, shaving high edges).

The council agreed it was important for the Zoning Board to meet soon regarding the Village's course of action.

Motion Alexander, second Neal to schedule Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting for Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 7:00pm.

All Ayes – Motion carried

New Business

- A. Approval of the 2018-2019 Village of Gaines Budget
Motion Neal, second Ferris to accept 2018-2019 Village of Gaines Budget.
Roll call: All Ayes – Motion carried
- B. Village/Township Fire Protection Agreement
Motion Alexander, second Ferris to accept the Village/Township Fire Protection Agreement, with dates to be announced.
All Ayes – Motion carried
- C. Gazebo Rental
Motion Alexander, second Nowak to accept the revised Gazebo Rental Contract form as presented.
All Ayes – Motion carried
- D. 2018 Dust Control Program (Chloride Application)
Motion Alexander, second Neal to accept the Genesee County Road Commission's proposal for the 2018 Dust Control Program Calcium Chloride application at \$0.624/gallon at an application rate of 2000 gal/mile.
Roll call: All Ayes – Motion carried
- E. Small Cities & Village Association Dues
Motion Alexander, second Nowak to pay the \$100 for 2018 Small Cities & Villages Association and to re-appoint Melissa Neal as the Delegate and Barbara Ferris as the Alternate.
Roll call: All Ayes – Motion carried

Communications

- A. Water & Waste Meeting – Nowak attended, presented report at meeting, and report on file.
- B. Small Cities/Villages Meeting – Neal attended
- C. Gaines Township Meeting – President Stiff attended
- D. TAC Meeting – Meeting cancelled

Council Concerns

- Nowak reported that the Depot Library sign is scheduled to be completed Friday, March 16, 2018.
- President Stiff commented that a new American flag and POW flag were put up on flag pole earlier in the day (Wednesday, March 14th).
- Alexander suggested that for the 2018 Gaines Rodeo, the Village of Gaines partner with the Knights of Columbus to organize a run/race Saturday morning (July 21, 2018) before the breakfast. A \$25 entrance fee was suggested with participants receiving a t-shirt.
- I.T. Right has begun on the Village web page.
- Chief Schmitzer requested that Code Enforcement Report be added to agenda for detailed updates each month.

Audience Comments

None

Adjournment

*Motion Alexander, second Neal to adjourn at 8:06p.m.
All Ayes – Motion carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicky Sandlin, Clerk