

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF SCOTTVILLE, MICHIGAN**

The 1362nd Regular Commission Meeting of the Scottville City Commission was held on September 21, 2015 and called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Maki.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present:

Commissioners	Ann Genson Edward Hahn David Johnson Richard L. Maki Marcy M. Spencer
---------------	---

Absent	Connie Duncil Don Pasco
--------	----------------------------

Also in attendance were City Manager Williams, Sgt. Williams, Clerk Howe, DDA Events & Marketing Coordinator Melissa Keefer and Attorney Thompson.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion, by Spencer and seconded by Hahn, to approve the 1361st Regular Meeting Minutes with the following corrections:

- Hahn noted that part of his statement was misinterpreted regarding the DDA and he meant to say when the DDA duties are performed by the city manager that the DDA funds could be used for that time period.
- page 4766, paragraph 1, 8 lines down, “were not in favor or the recommendation” should have read “were not in favor **of** the recommendation.
- page 4767, first line, the word “curb” should be “curve”.

Motion carried as corrected.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Genson asked about the bill to Bear Claw Bags.

Williams stated she had to purchase more 13-gallon city refuse bags because the inventory was low.

Genson asked about the check to Marc Hansen. Williams stated that is for watering the flower baskets and it is a budgeted item.

Motion, by Genson and seconded by Johnson, to approve the bills in the amount of \$53,938.50. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Sue Petripren was happy some picnic tables have been set out at the Riverside Park for citizens to enjoy.

Butch Claveau noted since there has been a police car patrolling his neighborhood, vehicles have slowed down.

Bruce Claveau asked if it would be possible to purchase the city garbage bags with drawstrings.

Williams stated she would have to inquire about the cost and if the businesses offer bags with that option.

COMMUNICATIONS

Williams noted the Mason County Rural Fire Authority minutes were submitted for review.

REPORTS CITY MANAGER

Williams stated she and the mayor attended the MML conference the previous week and returned with a wealth of information.

CITY ATTORNEY

Thompson stated most cities do not amend traffic and parking schedules by ordinance but by resolution and the commission may want to consider changing that procedure in the future.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sgt. Williams stated overall the festival went well and there were only two arrests; one for a controlled substance and the other for being disorderly. He noted a report was submitted regarding stationary radar that was performed at various areas of the city.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Williams stated the August financial reports were submitted for review.

DDA Report

Keefer was happy with the way the Harvest Festival turned out and everyone she talked to were enjoying themselves. Keefer stated the festival committee has several new ideas for next year.

Hahn noted he would like to see the carnival moved to McPhail Field.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Old Business # 2 – Appointment to the Planning Commission

New Business # 3 – Commissioner Resignation

OLD BUSINESS

Williams stated at an August meeting the commissioners decided to revisit the issue of two blighted properties on a monthly basis. She submitted pictures that were taken on August 17 and September 15 of the home located at 206 North Columbia and the only improvement made during this time frame was a few more rows of siding have been added to the front of the house.

Cindy Schultz, who owns the home at 127 West Broadway, stated the reason there was no activity on her home until just recently was because she had to wait for a contractor to inspect it. He found it not to be structurally sound and his recommendation was to tear it down. Schultz disagreed and she believes it can be salvaged with the help of family and friends. Johnson asked her if the exterior work will be completed by winter. Schultz is hopeful that will be possible.

Hahn would like to see the commission be more aggressive as far as blight issues are concerned toward the rental properties, specifically on West Broadway. Rob Alway, chairperson of the planning commission, noted that the City of Ludington is currently addressing this same issue and they are waiting to see their results and then the planning commission will put together their own plan and bring it before the commission for consideration.

Williams noted there is a vacancy on the planning commission and Heather DeVries, former Scottville Main Street manager, would like to stay involved with Scottville and is interested in serving on the commission. Motion, by Johnson and seconded by Spencer, to appoint DeVries to the planning commission. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Williams stated the first reading to amend the ordinance regarding speed restrictions was submitted for review. The recommendation is to increase the speed limit from 25 m.p.h to 35 m.p.h. on First Street west of Reinberg to the first curve and then increase the speed limit from 25 m.p.h to 40 m.p.h. past the curve going south to the old landfill. The notice will be published in the newspaper and approval of the amended ordinance can be made after 30 days of the first reading. Motion, by Johnson and seconded by Genson, to approve the recommendation as presented. Motion carried.

Williams stated the first reading to amend the ordinance regarding parking schedules was submitted for review. The recommendation is to move the handicap parking space from 101 North Main to 111 North Main Street. Motion, by Johnson and seconded by Spencer, to approve the recommendation as presented. Motion carried.

Williams stated she received an e-mail from Commissioner Pasco which stated he would not be attending that night's commission meeting as he wished to resign as city commissioner. The vacancy will be advertised and the commission has 30 days to fill it. Motion, by Johnson and seconded by Genson, to accept the resignation. Motion carried.

HEARING OF THE CITIZENS

Butch Claveau noted in one of the queen contestant's essay, she would like to see Scottville cleaned up and he agreed with her. Claveau noted many years ago the festival was moved to McPhail Field and it was a disaster and it is not the right venue.

Dick Weaver would like to weigh in on the Harvest Festival and he is happy to know that no commissioners want to do away with the festival. He is also happy that the festival committee is willing to compromise and make it a win-win for everyone.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Hahn noted two months ago Pasco requested that a town meeting be held and he is disappointed that nothing further has been done with the

request. Hahn is concerned about the lack of inadequate seating in the commission room for the residents and is requesting a different location be used for commission meetings. He believes the commission meetings continue to be held at city hall as a way to deter a larger attendance from the residents. Hahn also believes the time that commission meetings are held is inconvenient for residents who work and he wants it changed from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Genson suggested that the commission consider the possibility of holding commission meetings on a quarterly basis at a location larger than city hall. Thompson stated if a change is made to the date, time or location of a commission meeting a public notice has to be posted.

Hahn read a statement regarding his frustration in which he has seen little or no improvement in the operational procedures in the city government or with his fellow commissioners. His concerns regard the combined jobs of the city manager and treasurer (conflict of interest), no financial transparency, having an appointed mayor instead of an elected mayor, the time of the commission meetings and the current government is structured for city management and commission convenience with little regard to the residents. He encouraged the residents to attend commission meetings or contact the commissioners regarding these concerns or other specific items or no changes will be made.

Genson is concerned that there is no direct access to the sidewalk from the proposed site of the new handicap parking space. Williams stated a curb cut can be made at the site to help those people safely gain access to the sidewalk.

Thompson strongly encouraged that someone step forward to fill the vacancy on the commission within 30 days or a special election would have to be held.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Johnson and seconded by Spencer to adjourn. So carried at 6:21 p.m.

Richard Maki, Mayor

Deborah A. Howe, Clerk

