

**VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**MAY 22, 2017**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ATTENDANCE Beck, *Cole, Emery, Libbrecht, Markle, Rossman*  
Absent: *DeRuyscher*
4. WELCOME TO PUBLIC
5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING BEING RECORDED
5. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON 2017/2018 BUDGET  
*Motion by Beck, supported by Cole to open the Public Hearing. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.*

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Ballingall asked that the 3% raise be taken out of the budget.

Terror McLean stated that he believes the Council is doing a good job and that the past Council has gotten the current Council to where they are today.

President Markle stated that even with the raise Terri still is not the highest paid employee like those in her position in other communities.

Joanne Rossman stated that she is bothered by the comment that new members do not have the knowledge to vote on this budget. She asked, “Do any of the new County Commissioners have experience with their budgets? Do any new members of Congress or our Senators have experience with their budgets? We have very knowledgeable people on this Council and they have enough knowledge to vote on this budget.”

7. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING  
*Motion by Beck, supported by Cole to close the Public Hearing. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.*

6. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA  
*President Markle added Item A, Planning Commission, under Board and Committee Reports*

7. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

***Motion by Beck, supported by Emery to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

8. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

***Motion by Beck, supported by Rossman to approve the minutes of May 8<sup>th</sup> as presented. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

9. BILLS TO BE APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,778.42

***Motion by Rossman, supported by Markle to approve the bills in the amount of \$26,778.42. Roll call voted taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

10. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA ITEM NONE

11. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. PLANNING COMMISSION- Liaison Libbrecht explained that they approved the storage buildings that are going in on Cole with contingencies and waiting for the changes to go to Engineer Woodhams for approval once those items are met.

12. STAFF REPORTS

- A. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Herbert reported that there were 66 citations and 113 complaints taken.
- B. ATTORNEY’S REPORT- Attorney Graham reported that he and Terri were in Court with White Pine last week. We have finalized the settlement agreement and it is on record. They will be paying the Village a little over \$38, 641.00 for the back amounts owed along with the incurred usage for the past few months. We should be receiving payment by the end of this week.
- C. ENGINEER’S REPORT- No report

13. OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION/ADOPTION OF 2017/2018 BUDGET

***Motion by Beck, supported by Cole to approve the budget as unchanged from the last meeting. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

14. NEW BUSINESS

A. ACCEPT RESIGNATION LETTER FROM BRENDA DERUYSCHE AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR VACANCY

***Motion by Beck, supported by Emery to accept the resignation, authorize the advertising of the vacancy and send letters of interest to Policy & Personnel for review and recommendation. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

***B. REQUEST FOR CREATING AND MAINTAINING A MONARCH WAY STATION IN THE PARK- See Memo***

***Motion by Beck, supported by Rossman to send to Parks & Recreation Committee. Roll call vote taken. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.***

***C. FOIA REQUEST – Attorney Graham wanted to take this opportunity to explain this process to the Council. The Village has adopted a FOIA Policy. The Village has a FOIA officer and that is Terri. Once the request is received she reviews the request and has the right to handle the request. She has the right to ask for an opinion from him and other Department Heads. If a party submits a FOIA request to the Village and that party does not receive everything that they have asked for, they have the right to appeal to the Council as a whole. The Council will then need to give consideration to the request. The policy of the Village is to give as much information as possible. At times there are requests made that seeks information that may be confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure. The Council may not always be aware of the FOIA request but if an appeal occurs the Council may hear about it. There seems to be a sentiment from some requestors that the Council has a policy against disclosing information. We have not had an appeal but wanted to let the Council know that the Village is implementing the current FOIA policy and that any appeals will be forwarded to the Council.***

**15. COMMUNICATIONS**

- Midwest Energy Cooperative Energy Optimization Program Letter
- Memo from Superintendent Anthony regarding Alan Wegler
- Art in the Park Grant received for \$40,000

**16. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

Therese Malmberg is sad to hear that Brenda has resigned. She is sorry to see the lack of support for our Elected Officials.

**17. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

John Beck stated that he has submitted a draft application to a contact that he has at the state for review for the Historical Marker. Once he hears back we can submit actual application. He also provided the Council with a list of Council Members with the new emails and phone numbers.

John explained to the new members that a few months ago the Village contact WMU looking for an intern that may be able to assist the Village with updating our Ordinances and that we are still looking for help.

18 ADJOURNMENT @ 7:38