

Newberry Village Council
Public Hearing for 2020 Budget and Regular Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2019
302 East McMillan Ave.
5:30 p.m.

Present: President Stokes, Trustees: Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Interim Village Manager/Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement – Watkins, Superintendent of WWTP – Blakely, Clerk – Schummer, Treasurer – Medelis, Ordinance Enforcement Officer – Fossitt, Sterling McGinn, Scott Ouellette, John Bergman, Jack Olson, Rebecca Handa, Bruce Lane, Roberta Huffman.

Call to Order: President Stokes called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Village of Newberry Administration Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda with one addition. Add a short recess right before ‘Unfinished Business’. Ayes: All.

Public Hearing: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to move to Public Hearing at 5:33 p.m., for the purpose of hearing public comment on the 2020 Budget. Ayes: All.

President Stokes asked for public comment.

Public Comments: The following is a synopsis of comments heard:

Jack Olson: Newberry – Mr. Olson had a question regarding the *Open Government Transparency Accounting Data*, for the Village of Newberry, the column entitled ‘Long Term Debt’.

Charles Medelis – Village Treasurer: Made a statement regarding the tax rate the Village levies.

Gary Moulton – Village Accountant: Made statements regarding the 2020 Budget.

President Stokes asked three times for any further comment, none heard.

Close Public Hearing: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to close the Public Hearing at 5:49 p.m. Ayes: All

Recess: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to recess the Village meeting for 11 minutes. Ayes: All.

Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to resume the Village meeting at 6:00 p.m. Ayes: All.

Minutes: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2019 Regular Session as written. Ayes: All.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.

Village President’s Announcements: President Stokes stated there were five letters of interest for the two Trustee vacancies on the Village Council. Jack Olson and Bruce Lane introduced themselves and gave a brief summary as to why they would like to be on the Council.

Moved by Hendrickson, support by Freese, **FAIL**, to appoint Paula Mamph to fill the Council seat vacated by Lew Hitts, whose term ends November 2020. Ayes: Hendrickson. Nays: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook.

Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to appoint Jeff Puckett for Lew Hitts seat on the Council, whose term ends November 2020. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson.

Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **FAIL**, to appoint Jack Olson to the Village Council to fill the seat of Harold Dishaw, whose term ends Nov. 2020. Ayes: Hendrickson. Nays: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook.

Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to appoint Bruce Lane to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Harold Dishaw, whose seat must be placed on ballot for Nov. 2020 election – per MCL 62.13. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson. Nays: Hardenbrook.

Bruce Lane was administered the Oath of Office by Clerk Schummer.

Village Treasurer: Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to appoint Nathaniel Moulton for Village Treasurer, position up for re-election November 2020. Mr. Moulton briefly introduced himself. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.

Nathaniel Moulton was administered the Oath of Office by Clerk Schummer.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

- A.) Village of Newberry – Monthly Bills. Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the November 16 – December 13, 2019 bills, in the amount of \$60,253.35. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- B.) Water & Light monthly bills for November 9, 2019 – December 6, 2019: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to accept the recommendation of the W&L Board to pay the Electric and Water Funds in the total amount of \$184,046.01. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- C.) Christmas Lights Fund – as of 11/30/19 - \$13,277.79
- D.) Treasurer’s Report – November 2019 – Medelis gave a verbal report. Council accepted the report as presented.
- E.) Request for Disbursement of Funds:
 - a.) Stormwater/Asset Management/Wastewater (SAW) Grant Program, pay when paid: Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Lane, **CARRIED**, to pay Request #18 – 11/01/19 to 11/30/19– C2AE invoice #68990: \$5,694.05. Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
 - b.) State Revolving Fund Request #31 – 11/-1/18 to 11/30/19 - \$53,428.00
 - 1. Crane Engineering Invoice #357557-0 for \$20,715.00
 - 2. Crane Engineering Invoice #357992-00 for \$12,950.00
 - 3. Hawkins Water Treatment Invoice #031119-jsa for \$29,560.00 - \$19,763.00 from SRF (\$9,797.00 remains and must be paid by the Village).Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to pay State Revolving Fund Request #31. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- F.) Request for Action on Payment for portion of Young, Graham, & Wendling Invoice:
 - a.) Charges for travel and attendance at September 17, 2019 Meeting. Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to pay Wendling updated invoice for \$658.00. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- G.) Request for Disbursement of Funds – Union Settlement: Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to make the second payment on the Union Settlement for \$5,000.00. Ayes: Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane. Abstain: Stokes.
- H.) Request from Luce County for Recall Fees: Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to pay Luce County recall election fees in the amount of \$500.80. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.

Petitions and Communications:

- 1.) Request for easement across Village property from Diane Duscsay. Moved by Hendrickson, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, approve Watkins to work with Diane Duscsay to formalize an easement draft. Ayes: All.
- 2.) Customer complaint form: Dale Betcher. Moved by Lane, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to open up discussion on the complaint. Ayes: All. Council Action: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to authorize Watkins to work with Mr. Betcher and Superintendent Blakely to resolve Mr. Betcher's issue. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- 3.) Five Letters of interest to serve on the Village Council, received from: Jack Olson, Paula Mamph, Michael Schnorr, Jeffrey Puckett, Bruce Lane.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions:

- 1.) Resolution: 2020 Operation Budget Adoption: Acted on in New Business.
- 2.) Resolution: Resolution for Designation of Street Administrator. Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to adopt the Resolution for designation of George Blakely as the Street Administrator. Ayes: All.

Recess: Moved by Lane support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to take a 10-minute recess at 7:06 p.m. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Lane. Nays: Hendrickson.

Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to go back into session at 7:16 p.m. Ayes: All.

Unfinished Business:

- 1.) Village Treasurer Position – changing from Elected to Appointed: Ordinance committee is working on this matter.
- 2.) Plott Construction: Request for disbursement of funds. Mr. Duffield addressed the Council regarding his invoice. Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of \$40,070.00 to Plott Construction, contingent upon receipt of the insurance money. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- 3.) Public Comment Follow-up from Previous Meeting: None needed.

New Business:

- 1.) Consent Agenda: Information given.
- 2.) Appointment of Newberry Village Representative: Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to designate Interim Village Manager Watkins, to continue as the representative for the Village of Newberry, on the EUP Planning Commission's Governing Board. Ayes: All.
- 3.) 2019 Budget Amendments: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to approve the 2019 Budget Amendments as presented. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.
- 4.) Presentation of 2020 Proposed Operating Budget: Reviewed.
- 5.) Deliberation on Public Comment During Public Hearing: Discussion held.
- 6.) Budget Adoption:
 - a. 2020 Budget Resolution: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to adopt the 2020 proposed Operating Budget Adoption Resolution. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Lane.

Reports of Boards:

- 1.) Water & Light Board Meeting - Dec. 10, 2019: Report by Freese.
- 2.) Planning Commission Meeting: Did not meet.

Committee Reports:

- 1.) Finance Committee: The minutes will be in the next Village packet. Stokes gave report.
- 2.) Ordinance Committee: Dec. 3, 2019 meeting minutes presented. Hendrickson gave a verbal report.
- 3.) Management Committee: Dec. 11, 2019 meeting minutes presented. Stokes gave the report. Next meeting is Jan. 15, 2020.

Reports of Village Officers & Management:

- A.) Fire Chief: None
- B.) Ordinance Enforcement Officer: Fossitt gave a verbal report.
- C.) Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant & DPW: Blakely gave verbal as well as written reports.
- D.) Water & Light: Charts presented. Watkins gave a verbal report.
- E.) Interim Village Manager/Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement: Watkins gave a verbal and submitted a written report. Discussion included the proposed Verizon contract and the audit and grant applications.
 - a. FOIA Report: 2 new requests in November.

Public Comment: Roberta Huffman of the Newberry Area Chamber of Commerce requested a 7-minute comment period regarding Hometown Hero Banners: Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to have Administration work with Ms. Huffman to determine what the cost to the Village would be for the Banner project. Discussion followed. Ayes: All. Comment also heard from: Scott Ouellette and Rebecca Handa.

Comments by Council Members: Comment heard from: Cameron and Stokes.

Adjourn Meeting: Moved by Hardenbrook, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ayes: All.

These minutes are unofficial until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

Lori A. Stokes, Village President