

**VILLAGE OF CARLETON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 08, 2010**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at 1230 Monroe Street, Carleton, MI 48117. Members present, President Ron Lambrix, Councilmen Dennis McCormick, Don Mell, Bill Reckinger, Thom Zemke, Tom Reiser, and Chuck Collert. Also present, John Emig, Clerk America Runyan, and Treasurer Peggy Leiffer. Absent were: Attorney Jeff Osment

Motion made by Dennis McCormick to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting dated February 22, 2010. Motion supported by Don Mell. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Proclamation – Don Mell made motion to adopt proclamation, designating May as Motorcycle Awareness Month, supported by Dennis McCormick, 5 in favor, 1 opposed Bill Reckinger, Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Engineer John Emig, Sewer Tap Ash Twp Fire Department –

John Emig passed handouts to council. Also, passed out were Village Ordinance 118A and 168 regarding REU. Emig reviewed plans for the Township Fire Department, looking at REU's for the potential use of the building. After Review, 3.1 REUs is the recommendation for the Township Fire Department. The Township plans should be kept on file in case the building plans change.

Dennis McCormick thinks it is an awful lot of money to tap in. Chuck Collert thinks we should recognize it as a warehouse, and charge a cheaper rate. Don Mell said the formula Emig is using is the same formula that we have used on all the businesses and homes in the Village. John Emig recommends not to drop it as making it a warehouse, but to recognize it for what it is. Reckinger mentioned let them have two meters, one for water and one for sewer. Zemke stated we have to watch it because council would not allow others to have two separate meters, one for water and one for sewer. After discussion, the matter was tabled until they talk to Attorney Jeff Osment.

Engineer John Emig, Manhole Condition Report -

John Emig passed out copies of the report, and explained the tables and the high priority of maintenance that needs to be addressed. There is about \$157,000 of manhole repairs that are out there. There is about \$19,000 in need of urgent repairs. There are some lids missing, or the lid is dislodged, evidence of heavy flow, evidence there is something going on within the pipe. After further explaining by John Emig, President Lambrix suggested the Sewer Committee look into it and get back with the council.

Motion made by Don Mell to pay the bills totaling \$28,928.57, Motion supported by Dennis McCormick, Councilmen Chuck Collert questioned the AT&T bill. After discussion, all in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Property Taxes - Councilmen Reckinger stated if a person moves out of a home, then the homestead tax should go away. The Village needs to come up with a way to stop the homestead tax. The law says they have to be a residence and live there to get the homestead tax. Treasurer, Peggy Leiffer said the homestead does not affect the Village tax it affects the school tax.

Peggy seen the estimated budget for this year and it is not as much as we expected. If we don't raise the taxes we will get 389,000.00 not 450,000.00 just to keep in mind.

Garbage Pick up – Councilmen Reckinger suggested we charge extra for multi family homes, as a source of revenue for the Village. Ron Lambrix said we checked into it, and are charged one stop per home. Councilmen Reckinger said if a person has a home and rents it out to three people, they are making money. We could make revenue if we charged extra for garbage pick on these homes. He would just like the council to think about it as a source of revenue.

Park Commission – Councilmen Reckinger does not see a reason to have a Township and Village park commission. Councilmen Reckinger asked, why do we need a 7 member board. Why do we need Township representation on the park board since the Township does not want anything to do with the park in the Village. President Ron Lambrix said there are more things the park commission needs to do to get revenue in the park. Instead of closing the park commission you may want to expand it. The more people you have throwing ideas out, the better it may be.

City/Township Government – Has anyone checked into getting the Township involved in our police department. Councilmen Don Mell said he checked into it and they never showed interest in it. Councilmen Reckinger asked if we can charge the Township for the calls we go out on in the Township. Chief said it is usually a joint cooperation program, if the County needs help we help them and if we need help they help us.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Dennis McCormick said we do not have a parking ordinance. There was a car sitting on Monroe St that the DPW had to go around when we had the snow. Dennis McCormick thinks we should have an ordinance when there is a snow emergency to get the cars off the road. Chief Buckingham said an easy way to handle that would be to have no parking on the streets within the Village between 3a.m. to 7a.m. That would prevent the overnight parking on the streets. Reckinger said he agrees we should do something, but he is not in favor of that. There might be a reason to have to park on the road, company, large family.

Thom Zemke said the guy that has been plowing the park walks, is Joe Rishlow.

Chuck Collert asked when we were going to fix the road at Monroe and Matthews from the water main break. President Ron Lambrix said that is for the Township to fix. He will get in touch with them.

Peggy Leiffer commented on the Hospitalization. She would like to see if we could get it cheaper. She does not want to reduce the benefit but possibly reduce the cost.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jon McShosh says regarding the car, if the Blight Officer would come around, like the old blight officer, that would have been taken care of. There is a ton of blight in this town.

Esther Ciersezwski asked how can a Village employee be put on as Clerk. President Ron Lambrix said he checked with Attorney Jeff Osment and the clerk position can be filled by an employee if it is an appointed position. The position can only be filled until the next Election.

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:48p.m.made by Don Mell, supported by Bill Reckinger, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

America Runyan, Clerk
Village of Carleton

Next meeting March 22, 2010