



VILLAGE OF LAWTON

Regular Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting was held remotely

Lawton Village Hall – 125 S Main Street, Lawton MI 49065

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MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** President Reeves called the June 9, 2020 Meeting of the Lawton Village Council to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. **ROLL CALL:** Present: President Reeves. Trustees: J Appleby, J. Peterson, E. Dudek, G. Dudek, P. Knudstrup, and R. Turner. Absent: None. Others present: Village Manager Imus, DPW Superintendent T. Hackenberg, Chief Mack, and 2 guests.
- IV. **CALL TO ORDER OF THE LAWTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TO HEAR VARIANCE REQUEST:** President Reeves called the Lawton Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to order regarding a variance request from Consumers Energy for the property located at 523 N Main Street, Lawton, MI parcel # 80-45-050-003-10. The variance request is to allow a fence 7' in height to surround the property.

President Reeves opened the meeting for public comment. Representatives from Consumers Energy presented pictures of the proposed fence and explained the overall project to replace the valve station, demolish the adjacent house, fence the entire property and provide landscaping along M-40. With no additional questions or comments, President Reeves closed the public hearing.

R. Turner, supported by J. Appleby made a motion to approve the Consumers Energy Variance request to construct a 7' fence around the perimeter of the property out of concern for public safety for a public utility gas valve station. Motion was approved unanimously via a voice vote. President Reeves then adjourned the ZBA Meeting.

- V. **TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR COMMENT ON 2020 VILLAGE MILLAGE RATES:** President Reeves opened the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing to hear comment on the establishment of the 2020 Millage Rates. The proposed millage rate is equal to the previous year's millage rates and will generate less than a 1% increase of the net operating revenues for the Village of Lawton. With no comments, President Reeves closed the public hearing.

Peterson, supported by Knudstrup, made a motion to approve Resolution 20-08 to Establish the Village of Lawton 2020 Millage Rates at a total of 16.9595 Mills. The motion was approved unanimously via a roll call vote.

- VI. CONSENT AGENDA:** The Consent Agenda included the approval of June 9, 2020 Council Agenda as amended, the May 12 and May 26, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes, and the Approval of Disbursements in the amount of \$177,676.10 Appleby, supported by Turner, made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.
- VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:** None were presented.
- VIII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Paul Schincariol, County Commissioner, updated the Council on the County's millage rates (staying the same), the courthouse renovation has been delayed, the Veteran's dental program, and their approved support of Lawton's Commercial Rehabilitation District for 99 Walker Street.
- IX. OLD BUSINESS:** None was presented.
- X. NEW BUSINESS:**
- A.** Appleby, supported by Knudstrup made a motion to award the Biosolid Removal bid to Bill Goetsch of Michigan Agribusiness Solutions (MAS) for the Wastewater Treatment Plant per his bid in the amount of .07 cents per gallon. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- B.** Knudstrup, supported by E. Dudek, made a motion to approve a contract with ProgressiveAE for as-needed master planning, landscaping, transportation, and engineering services to perform an update of the 2012 Lawton Streetscape Plan to inform the 2023 Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) planned construction project for M-40 through the Village of Lawton. These master planning activities will look to incorporate sidewalk, parkway, planters, trees, street lighting, communications conduits, on-street parking, crosswalks, street furniture, and other desired placemaking elements into a phased multiyear streetscape plan. The project will not exceed \$20,000. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- XI. BOARD, COMMITTEE, AND STAFF REPORTS:**
- A. Planning Commission:** No Meeting.
- B. Downtown Development Authority (DDA):** G. Dudek reported the progress on the Splash Pad. The main pad is done, and they are waiting for the drain, fence, and pavers to be installed before the opening. They have scheduled several workdays for volunteers to prepare the landscape for seeding. A Main Street Grant has been submitted to help our downtown businesses.
- C. Community & Economic Development Committee (CEDC):** Knudstrup reported that the committee is working on a communications plan that includes a calendar with meetings, deadlines and special events. The plan will also pull together all the work of the newsletter, website, and social media.

- D. Finance and Administration Committee:** Reeves reported that the committee had just met with MDOT regarding the M-40 2023 project and were impressed with the organization and progress. The committee was also supportive of the Workshare program that had been put in place for the employees and anticipates a \$27,000 savings over 9 weeks through the end of July.
- E. Police Department:** Chief Mack updated the Council that was included in the packet.
- F. Public Services:** Superintendent Hackenberg updated the Council that was included in the packet.
- G. Village Manager:** Imus updated the Council on several items including the revised Spring Clean-up schedule and the Workshare program.
- XII. COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Turner and Knudstrup both commented on COVID-19 protocols, and Peterson expressed excitement with some of the problem properties changing ownership.
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by E. Dudek with support from Appleby to adjourn the Village Council meeting at 8:19 pm. Motion approved by acclamation. The next regular meeting will be August 11, 2020.