

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST 5, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Council held at 442 N. Grand Street was called to order by President Dan DeVries at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President DeVries.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President DeVries, Trustees Clark, Gunnett, Barnes, Dailey, Tackett and Carlin.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Faith Akert, Chief Bryan Campbell, Doug Wohlberg, Michael Rochholz, Susan Kuiper, Nancy Rafferty, Vicki Bell, Bobbi Truesdell, Lee Adams, and John Stodola.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Barnes, to approve the agenda as presented with an addition under New Business item e) Friday Backpack Update. All aye.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Tackett, seconded by Clark, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Lee Adams of Kalamazoo County Planning Commission appeared before the Village Council to present a Brownfield Plan for property located at 306 N. Grand Street.

Mr. Adams had the following comments:

- Clean up of the property will begin in the fall of 2013.
- The Kalamazoo County Land Bank will likely market the property early spring of 2014.

President Dan DeVries had the following comments:

- The Brownfield Plan will allow the clean up of the property using future tax revenues.
- The Brownfield Plan contains the work plan for redevelopment of the property.
- The Brownfield Plan contains provisions for every possible element of clean up and site development, and that the true cost of remediation will be far less than the amount shown on the plan.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Barnes, to approve the Brownfield Redevelopment Plan for 306 N. Grand Street as presented. All aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Mr. Doug Wohlberg appeared before the Village Council to present the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Audit with the following comments:

- The Village Audit has a “clean” or “unqualified” opinion.
- He reviewed the responsibilities of the audit process,
- He stated that the General Fund Balance is healthy.
- He stated that the Water Fund deficit is being reduced.
- He stated that Village and Library have very good internal controls and policies in place.
- He thanked the Village and Library staff for their cooperation and assistance during the audit.

Motion by Tackett, seconded by Clark, to approve the 2012/2013 audit as presented. All aye.

b) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding a request from Charter Communications for a Metro Act Permit as discussed.

Village Manager Cheri Lutz had the following comments:

- The permit application is to allow use of Village right of way for installation of cable and fiber optics.
- The permit is for a period of 15 years.
- The permit has been reviewed and approved by Attorney Bob Soltis.
- It is standard practice for municipalities to approve Metro Act Permits.

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Barnes, to approve the Metro Act Permit for Charter Communications as presented. All aye.

- c) The Memorandum from Chief Bryan Campbell regarding School Bussing/Crossing Guards was discussed. Additional information will be presented as it becomes available.
- d) The applications for Block Parties/Street Closures from Mr. Ray Hendriksma and the Schoolcraft Community Library were discussed.

Motion by Tackett, seconded by Gunnett, to approve the requests for Block Parties/Street Closures as requested. All aye.

- e) Ms. Sue Kuiper and Mrs. Nancy Rafferty appeared before the Village Council to provide an update on the Eagle's Nest activities with the following comments:
 - Ms. Kuiper and Mrs. Rafferty thanked the Village Council for spearheading discussion regarding duplication of services, and the need for non-profits to work together to maximize resources to help families.
 - Great collaboration of non-profits has taken place utilizing the Eagle's Nest as a distribution point for food, clothing, backpack programs, tutoring, and other essential services needed to assist families in Schoolcraft.
 - Mrs. Rafferty asked the Village Council to consider additional funding to assist with paying utilities at the Eagle's Nest.

President DeVries thanked the Ms. Kuiper and Mrs. Rafferty for the update, and stated that they will consider a donation at a future meeting.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- a) A letter from Lake Michigan Credit Union regarding the demolition of their building located at 106 S. Grand Street was read aloud by President DeVries.

President DeVries had the following comments:

- He stated that he was pleased to receive the letter from Lake Michigan Credit Union.
- He stated there is much misinformation circulating around the Village regarding the demolition.
- He stated that the Village of Schoolcraft does not own the property, and the Village has no responsibility for making the decision to demolish the building.

- He stated the building is on private property, and the decision was made by Lake Michigan Credit Union.
- He stated that the Credit Union has offered to give the house away for the sum of \$1.00 but there has been no interest from anyone to purchase the building.

b) A thank you card from Mr. and Mrs. Mike Willis, owners of the Grinder Coffee House was read aloud by President DeVries.

REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION:

President DeVries had the following comments:

- He stated that there is nothing that can erode the trust of taxpayers like the misuse of taxpayer dollars.
- He stated that he is thankful for the clean audit report, and thanked Village Manager Cheri Lutz and Village Treasure Faith Akert for their excellent work.

Trustee Carlin had the following comment:

- He stated that South County Fire Authority is looking at the possibility of merging with South County EMS.

Village Manager Cheri Lutz had the following comments:

- She requested approval to proceed with a Dangerous Building Hearing for property located at 123 E. Eliza Street.

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Barnes, to schedule a Dangerous Building Hearing for the week of September 23, 2013. All aye.

- She stated that Kalamazoo County State Bank is working with the Village to allow placement of some components of the septic system for the former Schnauzer's Building, on the Village's right of way.
- She stated that the barn located at 427 W. Eliza Street is still scheduled to be burnt by South County Fire Authority but they are waiting for favorable weather conditions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Tackett, seconded by Barnes, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. All aye.

Faith C. Akert, Village Clerk

Daniel P. DeVries, President