

VILLAGE OF SHEPHERD
Minutes of Meeting
March 7, 2022

Regular meeting of the Shepherd Village Council held on Monday, March 7, 2022. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p by President DeGraw.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Coughlin, M. Davidson, Maloney, Myers, Reynolds, DeGraw
Absent: Roth
Present: DPW - Davidson Police – Chief Sawyer Attorney – Bill Shirley

Motion by Coughlin, second by Reynolds to approve minutes of the meeting held on February 21, 2022. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Motion by Reynolds, second by Maloney to approve minutes of the budget public hearing held on February 28, 2022. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Public Comment: Janet Leiferman, 7197 Pleasant Valley Rd, presented herself as representing the Farm to Table committee requesting street closures on August 4, 2022 for their Farm to Table event.

President DeGraw stated it was on the agenda but could be discussed now. Council asked about the committee, which Ms. Leiferman replied there were now about 10 people on the committee. They would like to host the event the same way they did before, closing a section of Second Street down in front of the post office, allowing alley traffic and Orchard Street traffic. They will talk with Highland Plastics and the Post Office, and they will have insurance for the event.

Motion by Reynolds, second by Myers to allow the street closure on August 4, 2020 from the alley north of Wright Avenue to Orchard Street on Second Street for the Farm to Table event from noon – 10:00 pm. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Committee Reports: (Capital, DPW, Festival, Finance, Fire, Personnel, Police, PC/ZBA/Zoning)
Planning Commission: meeting tomorrow night, March 8th, to review parking loading and unloading area addition at Highland Plastics.

ZBA: meeting March 24th to review variance request for a lean too addition on a barn at 192 E Boulevard that does not meet the side yard setback to the east.

Old Business:

Purchase Requisitions: None

Application to USDA for water project 2023: Motion by M. Davidson, second by Reynolds to open public hearing at 7:20 pm regarding application to USDA. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

No public comment or written letters received at Clerk's office.

Motion by Reynolds, second by Myers to close public hearing at 7:21 pm. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Motion by Coughlin, second by Maloney to approve the USDA application for loan for the 2023 water project to be submitted with all required documentation. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Trustee Reynolds asked the status of the contract with the Zoning Administrator. Clerk Gross stated it has been signed by Mr. Nieporte and President DeGraw stated that he just signed this evening.

New Business:

Softball contract: no changes from previous years. Motion by M. Davidson, second by Maloney to approve the softball contract with the softball association for the lease of the softball field at Orchard and Union Streets. Carried 5-0, Myers abstained.

Shepherd Bar Sidewalk Café' contract: request for the annual sidewalk café in front of the Shepherd Bar and Maple Room starting April 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022. Motion by Reynolds, second by M. Davidson to approve the sidewalk café from April 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022 in front of the Shepherd Bar and Maple Room. Carried 6-0.

Millage discussion: based on the approval of the 2022-2023 budget there have been concerns about the General Fund. Attorney Bill Shirley sought information regarding the allowable millage amount the Village could levy, discussion about requesting funding from the school and Coe Township for services from the Police Department or seeking more mills in the next election to help cover police funds. President DeGraw spoke with Terry Starr, Superintendent of Shepherd Public Schools regarding collaborating funds for Police presence at the school. Mr. Starr will be researching more information regarding liaison officers in schools and Council will continuing seeking information as well.

Conflict of interest policy: new policy for the Village that will be filed with the USDA application. Motion by Reynolds, second by Maloney to approve a conflict-of-interest policy for the Village. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Chief Sawyer spoke about how fortunate Ithaca Schools and the community is regarding the recent bus accident. So many people were there helping and supporting those involved and we are all blessed that this wasn't more tragic than what it was.

Clerk Gross stated there will be a business after hours at the Maple Room on Wednesday from 5:00 – 7:00 hosted by the Gratiot Isabella RESD and the Central Michigan Manufacturers Association.

Clerk Gross confirmed the year end accounting will be with Maner Costerisan and the audit is being scheduled with Seigfried & Crandall.

Motion by M. Davidson, second by Coughlin to pay invoices in the amount of \$48,370.18. Carried by roll call vote 6-0.

Motion approved to adjourn at 7:49 pm. Carried 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Gina L Gross, Village Clerk