

VILLAGE OF SHEPHERD  
Minutes of Meeting  
June 7, 2021

Regular meeting of the Shepherd Village Council held on Monday, June 7, 2021. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p by President DeGraw.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Coughlin, M. Davidson, Maloney, Myers, Reynolds, Roth, DeGraw  
Absent: None  
Present: DPW - Davidson            Police – Sawyer  
                 Attorney – Shirley

Motion by Coughlin, second by M. Davidson to approve minutes as amended of the meeting held on May 17, 2021. Carried by roll call vote 7-0.

**Public Comment:** None

**Guest:** Randy Palmer, owner of 305 E Wright Avenue approached council as the new owner of the vacant property at 305 E Wright Avenue and looking for guidance on business/businesses for the Shepherd area. Mr. Palmer also addressed the council about probably marijuana facilities. Council did indicate that the village did opt out of the marijuana facilities.

**Committee Reports:** (Capital, DPW, Festival, Finance, Fire, Personnel, Police, PC/ZBA/Zoning)

Capital: continuing to discuss and gather information on solar, windmills and ramps. Next meeting is June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Festival: thank you was received from the board for the village waiving the police and DPW employee wages during the festival this year. Trustee Maloney discussed the idea of the festival utilizing the State program with students that are available through the summer months.

Fire: SCBA's paid off early saving about \$3500 in interest; next focus will be on the truck; DNR grants being sought; 2% grand received for the 800 frequency radios; runs to date are 262, in 2020 it was 256 and in 2019 it was 300; currently the board is meeting with individuals on personnel issues and meetings have been held at Lincoln Hall.

Planning Commission: meeting tomorrow evening for 302 W Wright Avenue for a new mortgage office.

ZBA: 222 E Cottage was approved for a variance for the placement of a pool deck.

Zoning: 307 W Orchard, 7 x 7 garden shed approved; 165 E Wright, pool, shed, move fence was approved; 222 E Cottage, pool deck was approved with variance. Bruce Bigard on Dearing Drive has been sent a letter of violation regarding a fence in his back yard.

**Old Business:**

Purchase Requisitions: Village office and Police Department submitted a request for new computers in the amount of \$2839.96. Motion by Reynolds, second by Myers to approve \$2839.96 to CMS for 3 new computers and 1 monitor for the village office and police department. Carried by roll call vote 7-0.

ZBA Members: resignation from Jim Olson was presented to Council. Motion by Maloney, second by M. Davidson to accept the resignation from Jim Olson for the Shepherd Zoning Board of Appeals effective immediately. Carried 7-0.

Discussion regarding other members on the ZBA board that have not been making the meetings and not giving any notification of their attendance. Trustee Roth will speak with Reynolds and Trustee Coughlin will speak with Hawkins to see about their future involvement with the ZBA.

President DeGraw reported that a grant of \$30,000 was awarded to the Village Splash Park from the Gerstacker Foundation. Wonderful news!

Phase II of the splash park – the village capital projects committee would like to be involved.

The committee has approved to move forward with the groundbreaking with more information to come on when that will happen.

**New Business:**

DPW Davidson/Clerk Gross reported that the water rate study will start by meeting with the new representative from Michigan Rural Water on July 7<sup>th</sup> and/or July 8<sup>th</sup> with Steve and Gina; then there will be a meeting with the Council currently scheduled for 6:00 pm on July 19<sup>th</sup> prior to the regular Council meeting.

Clerk Gross will put a notice out that the Council meeting will start at 6:00 pm on 7.19.21.

Chief Sawyer discussed the Lucas (CPR) machines and how important they are to have; discussion on any future marijuana facilities in the village and reminding everyone this is still federal illegal and also must be 1000 feet from school property, there are some good in these types of facilities too.

Chief will be in dunk tank right after Village President DeGraw on Wednesday promoting the splash park at the after-school bash at Veterans Memorial Park.

Discussion will be held with Melody regarding issues at the ball fields, but are being handled.

DPW Davidson stated that Wonsley's Tree Service will be in next week for tree trimming; Central Asphalt will be doing North Drive and 1<sup>st</sup> Street this week; Mr. Krafft will hopefully be returning to work on July 1<sup>st</sup> and sidewalks are coming along.

Clerk Gross reported the Act 51 report is in progress and also the account number transitioning is in full swing with BS & A and will take some research, changes and time.

Motion by M. Davidson, second by Myers to approve invoices in the amount of \$121,780.58. Carried by roll call vote 7-0.

Motion approved to adjourn at 8:29 pm. Carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted by  
Gina Gross, Village Clerk