



VILLAGE OF LAWTON

Regular Meeting Minutes – Tuesday October 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

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

WWW.LAWTONMI.GOV 269.624.6407

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** President Appleby called the October 12, 2021, 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 Appleby. Trustees: E. Dudek, N. Smith, G. Dudek, J. Peterson, and R. Turner. Others present: Village Manager Imus, Chief Mack, and Supt. Hackenberg and one other guest.
- IV. **CONSENT AGENDA:** The Consent Agenda included the approval of the October 12, 2021, Council Agenda, the September 14, 2021, Council Meeting minutes, disbursements in the amount of \$51,028.49 and the approval of payment for Michigan Municipal League Membership annual renewal in the amount of \$1,463.00. Peterson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with clerical corrections, supported by Turner. A unanimous roll call vote approved the motion.
- V. **COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATIONS:** None
- VI. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Ryan Tanis, 717 E. Fourth Street, informed Council of his interest in the vacant trustee position.
- VII. **PUBLIC HEARINGS / APPOINTMENTS:**
 - A. President Appleby made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the Second Reading of proposed Ordinance 201 of 2021 – the International Property Maintenance Code (2015 Edition) to be adopted by reference as the Property Maintenance Code of the Village of Lawton, with support from E. Dudek. A unanimous voice vote carried the motion. President Appleby offered public comment, barring none, Peterson motioned to close the Public Hearing with support from Turner. A unanimous voice vote closed the public hearing.
- VIII. **EXISTING BUSINESS:**
 - A. Turner, with support from Smith made a motion to adopt by reference Ordinance 201 of 2021 - the International Property Maintenance Code (2015 Edition) as the Property Maintenance Code for the Village of Lawton.
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. E. Dudek made a motion to adopt (with clerical corrections) Resolution 20-2021, a Resolution approving a land division at 301 72nd Street, Lawton, MI, Parcel #80-45-700-130-00. Smith supported the motion. A unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.
- B. Peterson with support from G. Dudek motioned approval of Resolution 21-2021 Authorizing the Sale of 423 E. Second Street, and Execution of Sale Documents by the Council President and Village Manager. Motion was carried by a unanimous roll call vote.
- C. E. Dudek motioned to approve Resolution #22-2021, a Resolution approving a Charitable Gaming License for the Lawton Athletic Boosters. Motion was seconded by Turner and a unanimous roll call vote approved this Resolution.

X. BOARD, COMMITTEE, AND STAFF REPORTS

- A. **Village Manager** – Manager Imus reports we have received an IFT request from Welches. They are requesting a 12-year 50% tax abatement for real and personal property. Imus also reports she and Supt. Hackenberg met with BakerTilly and Wightman to review the water/sewer rate analysis. BakerTilly and Wightman are currently reviewing the CIP to see if any projects could be “bundled” together to consider bonding. If bonded, it would spread the payments out over a longer period so that we could potentially increase rates at a slower pace. If paying cash, rates would have to increase faster to have the cash in hand. Imus notes we should have some numbers to present to the Committee within the next two weeks. We have received 6 Master Plan Proposals and on Monday Planning Commission and Council selected three consultants to interview on Thursday, October 14, 2021 which included CIB Planning, Progressive AE, and Abonmarche. The Village also received proposals for Village Hall renovations and are in the process of contracting with Abonmarche.
- B. **Department of Public Works** – Superintendent Hackenberg reports he has received the results for the State test for copper and lead. The results were good! He is working on a CIP for equipment replacement. He reports an issue on 3rd Street with sewer lines that will need to be replaced before winter. Hackenberg also informed Council that the 1-ton Dump Truck that is used extensively is out of service due to the box rusting out. Hackenberg has included a letter with a replacement truck he has found and is requesting Council to consider authorizing a purchase pending an inspection, test drive and history of ownership. Peterson made a motion to authorize the Superintendent of DPW to spend up to but not to exceed \$25,000.00 for a replacement truck, seconded by Smith. A unanimous roll call vote carried the motion.
- C. **Police Department** – Chief Mack read his monthly report and noted there has been a warrant issued for the Tree Service that illegally took down trees that were not under contract.

- D. **Planning Commission** – Peterson reports Planning Commission met on 10/5/21. They have adopted the Planning Commission by-laws, and they have a site plan review for the property south of General Dollar to be utilized for storage units in November.
- E. **Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** - G. Dudek reports they met and had discussion on a flagpole for Cannon Park, continued talks on the Boy Scout Hall for storage, they also talked about moving the Christmas Card contest to the Reid Property. The contest will be open to the entire Lawton community, not just Village residents. Discussion on a Christmas Tree for the community was also mentioned.
- F. **Community & Economic Development Committee (CEDC)** – Smith reports they met with LandUSA and CIB Planning regarding a housing analysis. Initially hoping for a Target Market Analysis in conjunction with the Master Plan, due to the cost it would be prudent to recruit the County and other communities, townships etc. to be involved to help incur the cost and benefit the larger area.
- G. **Finance and Administration Committee** –Appleby reports the committee met to review the Village Manager’s Review.
- H. **Public Safety Committee:** Turner reports they met before tonight’s meeting. They discussed the Police Department’s Accreditation process and are assembling the necessary information. Turner would like to have Chief write something for the newsletter monthly, maybe called “Chief’s Corner”. They discussed coming up with a fireworks calendar. The currently owned body cameras and car cameras most likely will not be repairable. Chief will check with the County for information on new equipment. There was also discussion on creating a Police Motor Pool Fund.
- I. **Public Services Committee** – G. Dudek reports they met. There is a delay on the Chip & Seal project, Superintendent Hackenberg is supposed to hear more on the schedule later this week.
- J. **Water and Sewer Committee** – E. Dudek reports the Village Managers comments regarding water and sewer has covered his update.

XI. **COUNCIL COMMENTS: None**

XII. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Turner, supported by E. Dudek, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. A voice vote was taken with unanimous approval of those present. The next regular scheduled meeting is October 26, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted by Joni Bell, Village Clerk