

BROOKLYN VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

January 11, 2016

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Brooklyn Village Council held on Monday, January 11th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Brooklyn Village Office Building, 121 N. Main Street, Brooklyn, MI.

Trustees and Officers present: **Cr. Douglas, Jenson, Roberts, Bliven, Co. Douglas**

Absent: DeJeu, Lutz.

Others present: Linderman, Guetschow, McCutcheon

Motion made by **Jenson**, supported by **Bliven**, for approval of Agenda. Ayes: All

Motion made by **Jenson**, supported by **Bliven**, to approve minutes of December 28, 2015 meeting.
Ayes: All

Public Comment: **None**

Reports

Code Enforcement – T Miller discussed the issue of keeping sidewalks clear of ice & snow. He is investigating reports of junk/rubbish at a few locations.

Fire Department – S Cota presented CTFD monthly report noting that 2015 was a busy year for the department. He also mentioned that dry conditions still exist for potential grass/brush fires to happen.

Financial – the report for period ending December 31, 2015 was presented

Jackson County – P Duckham reported that a new Park Director has been hired for Jackson County, Jeff Hovarter from Battle Creek. He also commented on the upcoming vote to increase the “911 Surcharge” on all land lines & cell phones in Jackson County. The charge is currently \$.44 and the proposed increase would be to \$1.50. These funds can only be used in connection with the 911 Service and would be used to upgrade the service.

Police Department – None

Public Hearing – None

Communications – None

Discussion

Building Maintenance violations – 405 Marshall Street

J Guetschow reported that the homeowner has vacated the premises and he has attempted to contact the bank. There has been no response to notices from the Building Official and water service has been shut off to the location. Legal fees could total upwards of \$1,500 to force action on the property. Demolition costs could range from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Proposed Permit Holiday –

A letter from the Village of Lansing, Illinois was provided as an example of what was sent to their residents outlining a “Fee Holiday”. Discussion followed and J Guetshow was asked to gather further information to possibly implement this idea for residentially zoned properties.

Proposed Historic District ordinance for downtown –

The Council discussed the potential of establishing an ordinance that would include the Boulevard area of the Village. J Guetshow was asked to gather further information on this matter that would mainly include architectural constraints.

Motion made by **Cr Douglas**, supported by **Jenson**, to appoint Brian Taylor as Building Official at a rate not to exceed \$55 per action and Brain Taylor/Marty Taylor (Bartlow Corp.) as Building Inspector for the Village of Brooklyn. Ayes: All

Motion made by Cr. Douglas, supported by Co. Douglas, to authorize the annual application for a permit to use the right-of-ways of state trunklines for municipal utilities. This permit is applicable for work along M50 & M-124 in the Village. Ayes: All

Staff Reports

Director of Public Works – K Kotsch reported that the street light pole on the Southwest corner of North Main & Marshall was struck by an unidentified hit & run driver. There is some wiring damage that needs to be repaired but we have a replacement pole on hand. Repairs on the electrical needs to be completed before installing the replacement.

Manager – J Guetshow reported that a meeting is scheduled for January 12th with Napoleon Township regarding the proposal to provide maintenance on their sewer system. Old Irish Mills has put out an RFP for preliminary costs so that they can formulate a budget for construction.

Motion made by **Co. Douglas**, supported by **Jenson**, to authorize payment of bills. Ayes: All

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m. by President Pro tem **Roberts**.

Mick Linderman, Village Clerk