

MINUTES OF DIMONDALE VILLAGE COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING
136 N. Bridge Street, Dimondale, MI 48821
February 12, 2024
Denis S. Prisk Jr., Clerk

7:00 p.m. Public Hearing called to order by President Pro-Tempore Conarton. Conarton explained that the purpose of the meeting was to take comments on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024-25. With no comments from the public, Conarton closed the hearing at 7:02 p.m.

7:02 p.m. Meeting called to order by President Pro-Tempore Conarton.
Conarton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: Bowen, Bower, Campbell, Conarton, Haidamous, Tardino
Absent: Reznick

Also Present: Denis Prisk Jr., Village Manager; Betsy Kelly, Recording Secretary.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to approve the February 12, 2024 agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes

Conarton offered a typographical correction to the minutes. Motion by Campbell, second Bower, to approve the January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was filed with no corrections.

Bills

The bills were reviewed. Motion by Campbell, second Tardino, to approve payment of \$47,429.81 in the General Fund, \$4,257.70 in the Major Street Fund, \$2,367.51 in the Local Street Fund and \$255.95 in the Farmers' Market Fund for February 12, 2024 bills and transfers. Motion carried.

Open to the Public

Officer Holliday, ECSD, provided a report for January 2024.

Assistant Fire Chief Bill Fabijancic Jr., WTES, provided a report for January 2024.

Eaton County Commissioner Toomey provided a report from Eaton County.

Recommendations/Reports from Council Committees and Village Officers

1. Prisk provided written report.
2. Campbell reported on the January 30, 2024 Recreation Committee meeting.
3. Haidamous reported on the February 5, 2024 Public Works Committee meeting.
4. Parisian provided a Farmers' Market report for 2023.

Unfinished Business

1. Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to un-table the recommendation from the Management Committee regarding the Manager's Contract and employee wages and benefits. Conarton restated the recommendations: to approve the increase in the monthly payment in lieu of insurance from \$150.00 to \$200.00; to approve wage and step increases for all employees; and to increase the Manager's vacation to 15 days. Motion by Campbell, second Bower, to increase the payment in lieu from \$150.00 to \$200.00. Motion carried. Motion by Tardino, second Bowen, to approve step and CPI increases for all three hourly employees. Discussion followed regarding reviewing the Compensation Policy before next year's budget. Motion carried. Motion by Tardino, second Bower, to modify the Manager's contract and add 15 days of vacation and approve a Step II increase. Discussion followed regarding vacation policy amendments. Campbell offered a friendly amendment to reflect the vacation increase as a one-time change with policy review before the next budget. Tardino and Bower accepted the amendment. Motion carried.
2. Motion by Haidamous, second Bower, to un-table the recommendation from the Public Works Committee. Discussion followed regarding multi-faceted nature of the issue, temporary fixes, paving, drainage, relocation of commercial driveway, and addressing the area in a timely yet cost effective manner. Motion by Haidamous, second Bower, to table the recommendation pending an additional Public Works

meeting. Discussion followed regarding all researched options, design concerns and reliance on contractor's and engineer's options. Motion carried.

New Business

1. Prisk stated that terms have expired for Board of Appeals members Iverson and Kreisler, with both interested in reappointment. Motion by Campbell, second Haidamous, to approve the reappointments for three-year terms to expire in March 2027. Motion carried.
2. Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to approve the recommendation from the Recreation Committee to charge the Arts Commission with moving forward with a mural on Sam Hardy's building funded with donations. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to approve the request from the Arts Commission to place one art exchange box on Village property. Discussion followed regarding funding, maintenance and location. The group agreed that the effort will be privately funded, maintained by the Arts Council and the box will be located in the pocket park by the post office. Motion carried, Tardino opposed.
4. Prisk presented a Budget Amendments Resolution. Motion by Campbell, second Bower, to approve the resolution. Motion carried. (Copy attached.)
5. Conarton presented the Manager's Contract. Motion by Bower, second Tardino, to approve the contract. Motion carried.
6. Conarton presented a Resolution to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Appropriations Act. Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to adopt the resolution. Motion carried. (Copy attached.)
7. Conarton presented a Resolution for Farmers' Market Activities for 2024. Motion by Campbell, second Tardino to adopt the resolution. Motion carried. (Copy attached.)
8. Prisk presented a grant opportunity from Consumers Energy to fund the proposed mural. Motion by Campbell, second Bowen, to apply for the grant. Motion carried.
9. At 8:34 p.m. a motion was made by Bowen, seconded by Campbell, to go into closed session under section 8(d) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the purchase or lease of real property and section 8(h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute. Roll Call Vote: Yes: Bowen, Bower, Campbell, Conarton, Haidamous, Tardino; No: none; Absent: Reznick. Motion carried. The regular meeting was reopened at 8:59 p.m.
10. Motion by Bowen, second Bower, to stop pursuing purchase of the First Presbyterian Church, direct Prisk to communicate the decision to the church, and direct Prisk to pursue an alternate property. Motion carried.

Open to the Public

Before entering Closed Session, the following comments were received:

Pam Austin spoke about the drainage and road condition at Bridge and Jefferson Streets and potential relocation of the commercial driveway.

Announcements, Communications, Meeting Schedule

1. Before going into Closed Session the following Committee Meetings were scheduled: Council Work Session, February 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and Public Works, March 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Campbell, second Bower, to adjourn. Motion carried at 9:05 p.m.

