

Village of Ortonville
Township Offices – 395 Mill Street, Ortonville, MI 48462
Ortonville Village Council meeting
January 12, 2009 – Following the Zoning Board of Appeals

President Quisenberry called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

Roll Call:

Trustees Present: Batten, Champion, Eschmann, Green, Kassuba, Nivel, President Quisenberry
Trustees Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Manager - Ed Coy, Village Clerk – Julie Alexander, Village Treasurer – Larry Brown, General Clerk – Diana Bertapelle and approximately 10 residents.

Approval of Agenda:

No changes.

Motion by Trustee Kassuba, seconded by Trustee Eschmann, to approve the agenda.
All in favor, the Motion carried.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:

No changes.

Motion by Trustee Champion, seconded by Trustee Green, to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2008 Ortonville Regular Council meeting, without corrections.
All in favor, the Motion carried.

Disbursements for December 2008 & January 2009:

Clarification sought for the following invoice(s):

- Lewis & Knopf** – discussion on services in relation to total of revised invoice
- Consumers** – clarified all locations reflected on bill

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Nivel, to approve disbursements in the amount of \$24,136.46.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Batten, Champion, Eschmann, Green, Kassuba, Nivel, Quisenberry
Nays: None.

Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report for November 2008

No questions. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Acceptance of Other Items:

A. Brandon Township Fire Alarms – November 2008

Accepted.

B. Brandon Township Board Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2008

Accepted.

C. Brandon Township Board Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2008

Accepted.

D. Brandon Township Board Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2008

Accepted.

E. Brandon Township Board Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2008 (draft)

The Village Council would like finalized minutes for review.

F. Minutes of the DDA Board Meeting – October 27, 2008

Trustee Kassuba questioned page 4 of minutes regarding property being purchased to address lack of parking. Discussion occurred clarifying that the DDA is not considering purchasing property.

G. Minutes of the DDA Board Meeting – November 24, 2008

Trustee Nivelt questioned any Council involvement in the Economic Restructuring Committee. The goals and objectives of that committee were better defined.

Public Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Robin Mansfield – Glass Class Bead Store

Mr. Mansfield requested snowplowing improvements by the DPW. He stated that he spends too much time shoveling the sidewalk in front of his business as a result the DPW not tilting the blade away from the curb. He suggested piling the snow in vacant parking lots & tilting the blade away from the curb.

Amy Guirey – The Village Pub

Ms. Guirey requested snowplowing improvements by the DPW. She stated that she is paying workers to shovel multiple times a day and then the snowplow comes through and pushes the snow back on the sidewalk. She also stated that the plow is going too fast. The side of her building is being sprayed with slush.

Perry Rouse – The Village Pub

Mr. Perry complained of speed the snowplow is coming through. He noted his concern for his customers falling. He specifically noted that DPW worker Kevin Booms appears to be the one driving the snowplow when it is going too fast.

Arlene & Ed Thompson – Thompsons Hardware

The Thompson's stated their concern over the speed of the plow truck and that the plow keeps pushing snow back onto the sidewalk they've already shoveled. They indicated that DPW worker Kevin Booms is the driver. They also noted that Mr. Booms appears to enjoy spraying their building with slush as he does so with a smile on his face. When they questioned him about his rate of speed, Mr. Booms told them "job security" was the reason he plows in the fashion that he does.

Bill Prince – DPW Worker

Mr. Prince noted that snow plowing has been an on-going complaint and that action to correct concerns has not been taken. He acknowledged that mailboxes should not be damaged and that snow shouldn't be pushed onto the sidewalks. Mr. Prince also stated that the plow truck does not function properly and could be contributing to the manner in which it is being driven. Mr. Prince did indicate that he does not actually drive that particular vehicle.

Jim Byers – Resident

Mr. Byers noted that Village ordinances regarding sidewalk clearing places the responsibility on the business and homeowners.

Trustee Kassuba complimented the DPW efforts this season.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

A. Additional Employer's Liability Insurance – Walt Renn

Mr. Renn was present to answer any Council questions. He supports a change to increase the workman compensation liability to \$1,000,000 (from \$500,000). The way the current policy is structured, the umbrella portion is ineffective. The change will increase the annual policy premium by \$140. It was clarified that a resolution was not required to change the policy.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Kassuba, to increase employer's liability coverage to \$1,000,000.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Batten, Champion, Eschmann, Green, Kassuba, Nivelt, Quisenberry

Nays: None.

Motion approved.

B. Approval of New DDA Board Member – DDA Representative

Dennis Hamlin, owner of Jet's Pizza, was highly recommended by Robert Renchik to be appointed to the DDA Board.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Nivelt, to approve the appointment of Dennis Hamlin to the DDA Board of Directors.

All in favor, the Motion passed.

C. Proposed Ordinance Changes – Village Manager Coy

Village Manager Coy gave an overview of the proposed junk automobile ordinance. Upon Council review, questions arose over enforceability of a newly written ordinance with pre-existing situations and whether or not a specific number of vehicles should be included in the

wording. Village Manager Coy is to look into questions and review ordinances with Tim Palulian.

Also, questions arose over definitions to be included in the proposed weed ordinance and whether the DPW would be involved in cutting the grass of ordinance violators. No action was taken by Council. This issue will be on the agenda in February.

D. Snow Plowing – President Quisenberry

Trustee Green stated the need for the personnel committee to address the snow plowing issues. Trustee Kassuba questioned ability to purchase a new truck.

Village Manager Coy advised Council that we have received three times the amount of snow as last year at this time which has been a factor in snow plowing efforts. Village Manager Coy indicated that he would take the necessary steps to improve snow plowing issues and the personnel committee would not have to get involved.

Public Comments:

Jim Byers – Resident

Noted general dissatisfaction with the handling of Village issues.

Items from Trustees:

Trustee Batten – Questioned items for sale on South Street curb.

Trustee Champion – Noted that organizational part of luminaries went well, even though weather didn't cooperate.

Trustee Nivlet - Clarified that luminary volunteers will be thanked in newspaper.

Trustee Green – Stated that ordinance regarding throwing candy at parades should be considered due to debris left behind and the dangerous nature of it.

Trustee Eschmann - Suggested other methods of distributing candy instead of banning it altogether. Also, he asked that the roof sign on Citizen building be addressed.

President Quisenberry - Offered apology to citizens over the poor road conditions, and noted that the Township Supervisor did the same.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Eschmann, to adjourn the regular Ortonville Village Council meeting.

All in favor, the Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Alexander
Village of Ortonville Clerk