

The Village of Colon, Michigan

Village Hall
111 St. Joseph Street

September 13, 2022

7:00 PM

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Gross, Norton, Delp, McManus, Senkewitz, Craun

Not present – Malmborg (excused)

Approval of Agenda: Additions/Revisions for unfinished business (Add Signs, Change Decker Road to property) and new business (Add Halloween Trick or Treat times, crushed concrete). Gross made the motion for approval of the agenda with additions/Delp seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes: McManus made the motion to approve with spelling corrections the 8/9 minutes/ Senkewitz seconded. All voted Aye, motion passed

Financial Report and Payment of Bills: McManus made a motion to approve the Financial Report as presented and to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$30,606 and payroll in the amount of \$58,898.67/Delp seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

Payment of Bills: McManus made a motion for payment of bills in the amount of \$30,606 and payroll in the amount of \$58,898.67/Delp seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

Public Comments

Eddie Lebeouf: Adding confirmed that the minutes for the 9/13 meeting were received on the Friday before. He submitted an email to the council in June 2021 regarding the open meetings act and the requirement for minutes must be available to the public with roll calls taken and corrections within 8 days after the meeting. Approved minutes must be available to public within 5 days with corrections after the approvals are made. Eddie stated that this is the least that you must do. It is a repeated problem since last year. The second point is that unfinished business does not include the employee handbook, which was tabled, but not removed indefinitely. The Council must add the employee handbook development back to the agenda as it is important. The third point is that there was a guy parked in front of the dock and blocking Eddie putting his boat in because there was no sign that said loading and unloading only. Eddie is disappointed as these are continuing problems. He has forwarded an email to the attorney general's office voicing his complaints.

Monthly Reports

DPW Supervisor Report:

No questions on the report.

Received a quote for the pick-up plow with poly bladed plow. Can get a steel plow cheaper and is in stock. Nathan to get a quote on the steel plow.

Nathan received quotes for tires for the salt truck. Note: tire replacement is in the budget. Delp made a motion to purchase the tires from Boland, tires not to exceed \$2,343.40/Norton seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Gross, Norton, Delp, McManus, Senkewitz, Craun Nays: none. Malmberg not present. Motion passed

The Personnel Committee will meet on compensation for Nathan as acting supervisor pay in the interim until the new supervisor is hired.

Brush pick-up: some residents are putting their own brush pick-up by the road. The village is not planning to have a special fall brush pick-up. The council to evaluate communication (Facebook site, maybe send out with water bill).

DPW will flush the hydrants in late September or early October. Nathan will coordinate with Julie and Billy.

Police Chief Report:

New squad car has an issue with the amplifier/light switch. This was caused by a bad component from the manufacturer and will be replaced within a couple of days.

Old car will be posted on Craig's list, Facebook, etc. to sell.

New school route – overall working well. Some driveways have been blocked. Dr. Smolarz has given funding for portable signs. Chief of police will put up and take down the portable signs every day.

Sharon to contact the attorney for the status on the ATV ordinance.

Office Manager Report:

Invoice was received for the repair and staining of the park picnic tables. Billi confirmed the work was completed.

Fire Board Report:

The number of Calls for August has not been received yet.

There was a Special board meeting last night that approved a new fire truck for grass fires. It is a 2014 GMC in good shape purchased for \$31,500. Note: the current/older truck will not be fixed.

Lake Board Report:

Held the last lake board meeting of the year in September. Reviewed report from the weed management group. Continuing to take E. coli samples and testing. The end of month budget balance is \$308,227.05. The next meeting is scheduled for April 15th, 2023. A Special meeting will be called in the Spring. The Community is encouraged to attend to give input or ask questions. There is a website for the Lake board with the minutes posted. The link is: [2022 Lake Board Meeting Notes](#)

Planning Commission

Last meeting was on September 6th. All 4 members were present. There are questions regarding the future use map. Kurt is working with the state to understand what is required.

RRC: The planning committee would like to continue with Trello.

Michigan Association of Planners (MAP) is holding training and offering publications at a price of \$65/individual. Kurt recommended having one member of the planning commission

Norton made a motion to send Kurt Kuhlmann to MAP at a cost of \$65/McManus seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

Colon Community Park Board:

McManus made a motion to appoint Martha Graham to the park committee/Delp seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

No questions on the park board minutes.

Summary: Two quotes received for painting and repair of picnic tables. The park board voted to proceed with Delbert Hostetler. The picnic tables are now repaired.

DDA Report:

MSU SBEI meeting on August 16th went well. The community provided feedback on the initial ideas that MSU presented. MSU is now working on the third meeting content with the final presentation. The third meeting date has not been confirmed yet.

Tadd submitted his resignation to the DDA. The DDA will ensure the resignation letter is included in during the next meeting.

The September meeting has not been confirmed yet due to member availability. The agenda will include discussion of the pop ups and next steps. The DDA needs to understand contractual requirements with the grant as well as the contract with Village Market.

Blight Report:

No report

Zoning Report:

Joe Wickey supplied a building report of the current status of building permits.

Committee Reports:

No other reports

Fleis:

No Update, Fleis absent.

Unfinished Business

Decker Property

Waiting for feedback from the attorney on Selling village property including the old village building (how do we go about selling and removal of the old Village office) in addition to selling the pop ups if allowed by the grant.

DPW New Vehicle

Working on

Fleis Reimbursement of Lamb Knit Grant

President Craun will reach out to the Fleis representative for more information

Signs

Norton evaluated signs. The initial list includes South Swan street (faded signs and the arrow sign has been hit and damaged), missing “Public access to the lake” signs, missing “no swimming” and “loading/unloading only” signage, Elm and Frank sign is angled, and a “no outlet” sign on Catherine Street that is no longer valid. Norton and McManus to work on a complete list of signs to replace. Norton to obtain quotes from Rathco.

Note: DPW has some extra signs that can be used.

Need to move the flagpole to the new building. Norton to investigate additional signage needed for the new Village Office. President Craun to plan a ribbon cutting event.

New Business

Auditor – Kathy Mieres – could not attend. Will target October meeting.

DPW Update/Part Time ... Jim has offered to help with brush, grass, and water guidance. The DPW supervisor opening has been posted. President Craun reached out to Centreville for assistance. President Craun to negotiate with Jim for his part-time pay.

Marilyn made a motion to hire Jim Weinberg as a part time employee without benefits with pay at \$25/hr. or less/Dick seconded.

Roll Call vote: Ayes: Gross, Norton, Delp, McManus, Senkewitz, Craun

Nays: none. Malmberg not present. Motion passed

Tree @ 1037 Lake Drive: Norton performed an evaluation. President Craun to reach out to Jim for his support. Linda and Jim to evaluate together. Trees in general: DPW to make a list of trees that need to come down because they are damaged or dead.

Pop ups: DDA needs to research the requirements of the 5-year contract with village market as well as the grant stipulations.

Old Village Building: waiting for the attorney feedback. Area behind with sink hole should be taken care of before winter. Nathan to evaluate.

Crushed concrete –

- The amount left is still about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pile. Lost over 100 yards. Nathan to confirm the total amount from the bill for crushing.
- Thompson construction had contract with school project. Thompson removed crushed concrete from Colon and took it to their business in Coldwater. It appears they used crushed asphalt, instead of concrete, for the school project. School wants to know if they can have 10-15 yards additional. Additionally, Thompson needs to do the clean-up by the gravel area. Council agreed that Colon needs to invoice Thompson for the full price, not discounted. The village also must confirm the amount stolen (initial estimate is 100-120 yds - 3 tandem + dump truck for two loads?).
- Dean Fisher is doing project for the fire department. The township is planning to donate other needs of the Fire Department. Delp made a motion to donate 60 yds of crushed concrete for the fire department project that Dean Fisher is doing/Norton seconded. All voted Aye. Motion passed

Halloween times: Norton made a motion to do Halloween trick or treating on October 31st from 5-7pm/Senkewitz seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion passed

Public Comments

- 1) Mr. Bell – need a sign on Pleasantview Dr. (5 buildings, but no sign). It is a recorded street, but has no road sign
- 2) Kurt Kuhlmann – couldn't get to the DPW area, but now access is granted again. The other issue is how will the Village Hall handle keys for service organizations to have a meeting (such as planning commission or DDA meetings). Will be discussed at the next meeting. Church is having trunk or treat at 4-6 on the Oct 30th
- 3) Carl Thornton – thanked President Craun for allowing Eddie to present public comments beyond the allotted 3-minute period. He then stated that he attended the meeting because of “smoke” he saw on Facebook regarding police funding. He agrees that we need to have the complete coverage. There are a lot of empty houses in the community – too tempting for people to break into or squat. DDA – MSU study ... most important item is the parking. We should fight MDOT. Cars fly through at 40 mph. Putting angled parking on one side or the other is an easy solution to both. Carl warned the DDA to be careful of how many live plants/greeneries you added as they need to be taken care of.
- 4) Martha Graham – Thanked the council for appointing her to the Parks Board. She has lots of ideas from the original time she served. Taking care of the parks shouldn't be the village's responsibility. She would like to bring income into the village to fund the park.
- 5) President Craun supports the hours and coverage that the police bring to this community and does not support reducing the coverage. President Craun hopes that Mark stays in the community as he does a lot for the community. Thank you – appreciate you and your team.

Correspondence

Domestic assault correspondence was in the council packet. No comments.

Adjournment - Gross made a motion to adjourn/McManus seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted

Vicki Senkewitz appointed by Village President to act in absence of Carol Ritchie, Village Clerk