

The regular meeting of the Elberta Village Council was held on Thursday, July 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building, 401 First Street, Elberta.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting.

Present: President Pro-Tem, Jenks, Bower, L.Manville, Holmes, Gatrell and Wilkins.

Absent: R.Manville and Stapleton.

Guests: Ken Bonney, Emily Votruba, Carolee Ness, Lois Schram and Cheryl Gross.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jenks pointed out that on page 3, under Municipal Buildings, the minutes should have included that “People should bring options for the building to the meeting. She also said that under public comment it should have said she (Jenks) would look into it not that she would get it for him in reference to Ron McPherson’s questions concerning Village road right-of-way.. Motion by L.Manville supported by Gatrell to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2013, meeting as corrected. Yeas – 4.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Jencks said that she would like to add agenda item #3 – DPW to the agenda. Motion by Wilkins supported by L.Manville to approved the proposed agenda with the addition of # 3 – DPW. Yeas – 4.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Emily Votruba said that she was having a fence building get together at her house on Saturday and Sunday at 5 pm. She said everyone was invited.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Mr. & Mrs. Russel Warren was read. The letter concerned safety issues on Furnace Avenue. A letter of response will be sent to the Warrens. Also a letter was read from Adrian and Marilyn LaBonville objecting to the Council’s decision concerning the Putney property. Jenks said that she would reply to the LaBonville letter. A letter from the Village to Loy Putney concerning the performance guarantee was read.

A proposal from Fleis and Vandenbrink concerning the SAW grant. Bonney was asked to also contact other firms for their proposals.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

L.Manville said the receipt report showed receipts for the month of June of \$41,230.06. Motion by L.Manville supported by Gatrell to approve for the month of June the accounting checks in the amount of \$43,849.47 (which includes P&R \$422.67 and Solstice Festival \$16,774.40) and payroll \$9,804.05 for a total of \$53,653.52 Yeas – 4.

Department heads were heard from.

DPW Superintendent: Bonney discussed various activities in the DPW and the Village.

BLUA: Jenks said the BLUA Board had discussed the budget.

P&R: Wilkins said there had not been a quorum for the July meeting. She said that she believed that about a \$1,000 dollars had been made on the Solstice. Wilkins said they had not gone in the hole. She said they were still selling Solstice t-shirts at the Farmer's Market. She said they had still not received the vendor fee from Michelle Cannart for Solstice.

Marina/Farmer's Market: Wilkins said that there were a couple of problems at the Farmer's Market. She said that Katie Conley had asked to file a grievance. Wilkins said that Conley was upset that she couldn't sell produce that was being supplied to her by another farmer. Wilkins said that the resale of another person's produce is not allowed per the rules for the Farmer's Market.

Zoning Administrator: Bonney said that he had issued a land use permit for a house to be located on Frankfort Avenue. The house will be owned by Sandra Olsen and is being put in by Pine Grove Homes. Bonney was asked if he had received an application from ECO Building, Inc., yet. He said not yet but he will talk to them again.

President's Report: Jenks reported as President Pro-Tem. She said there had been a special meeting held on July 9 concerning the Putney property. Jenks said that she will have a meeting with Ron McPherson concerning several road issues that he has. The use of the Village dumpster was discussed. It was noted that it wasn't for the use of the Village employees or Council members.

Budget Committee: Jenks said that she would like to see all committees meet more often. Wilkins, who is on the budget committee, said that was why she had voted no on the budget as she hadn't had enough time with it. Jenks said she would like to get a schedule at the next meeting.

Planning Commission: L.Manville said that the PC would be having a special meeting concerning the occupancy per square foot. Bower pointed out in the PC's May 5th meeting minutes that Bonney's name was used instead of Putney's.

AGENDA:

1D/A Library Building. Jenks said that the library building is a mess. Gatrell suggested selling the building. She said it would cost more to fix it up. Jenks agreed with Gatrell. Wilkins said there is a lot of work that needs to be done on it. L.Manville said that she hated to see it torn down but it needs a lot of work. The sale of the building while retaining the real estate was discussed. Motion by L.Manville supported by Gatrell authorizing President Pro-Tem, Clerk, DPW to solicit advice of realtor for value of building. Yeas – 4. Schram said that the building needs a lot of work. Carolee Ness hates

to see it go. She suggested forming a group to save the building. Votruba thought there should be a public hearing on it and see about the interest in saving it. She said it could be on face book. Votruba said that the Community Building is not much better than the Library Building. Tearing down the building was discussed and using the site for a parking lot. Gatrell suggested the possibility of putting it on a ballot. Gross suggested a public hearing to get ideas. L.Manville withdrew her motion and then changed her mind and said we should go forward with it.

2.D/A Cheryl Gross said that she had met with the Conservancy to discuss Lakeside Blvd. This was discussed at length. Gross said that the Dunes Neighbors realize that the Village doesn't have the financial resources to implement the Lakeside Blvd. Project. She said the Dunes Neighbors are committed to raising X amount of funds for the project. Gross said that the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation has agreed to manage the fundraising for the Village's Lakeside Blvd. Project. Phil Ellis will represent the Foundation in the fund raising enterprise. Motion by Wilkins supported L.Manville to enter into an agreement with Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation as fiduciary agent for the Lakeside Blvd. Project. Yeas – 4.

3.D/ DPW . Bonney said there had been no interviews as of yet. He said that both Craig Bower and Corey Toms had their CDLs. He said that both had worked on sewer and water projects. Bonney said that either would be good. Wilkins asked if it would be a conflict of interest as Craig Bower is Sharyn's son. Bower said that she wouldn't be doing the hiring. The Council said they didn't think it was fair to Bonney to wait until the August meeting. L.Manville said that she was disappointed that this was not taken care of. It was noted that a special meeting would have to be called after the interviews were held.

Public comment was heard.

Votruba asked about procedure. She asked about how many meetings could be missed. Jenks said that she hadn't heard from R.Manville. She said that was why a policy and procedure manual was needed. Bower said that before tonight Stapleton had missed 11 meetings and R.Manville 7.

Gatrell said that she wasn't happy with last week's article in the Record Patriot concerning the Putney property.

Motion accepted to adjourn.
Sharyn Bower, Clerk
Village of Elberta