

Village of Ortonville
Township Offices – 395 Mill Street, Ortonville, MI 48462
Ortonville Village Council meeting
March 23, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.

President Quisenberry called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present: Batten, Nivelt, Kassuba, Champion, Green, Quisenberry
Absent: Eschmann

Also Present: Village Manager - Ed Coy, Village Clerk – Julie Alexander, Village Treasurer – Larry Brown, General Clerk – Diana Bertapelle, Chief Kwapis and approximately 4 other individuals.

Approval of Agenda:

At the request of President Quisenberry, Item 13 “**Closed Meeting**” was deleted from the agenda.

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of the Village of Ortonville Council meeting on March 9, 2009.
No changes.

Motion by Trustee Kassuba, seconded by Trustee Champion, to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2009 Village Council meeting without changes.
All in favor, the Motion carried.

Acceptance Items:

A. Treasurer’s Report – February 2009

Council reviewed.

B. Summary of Brandon Township Fire Alarms – February 2009

C. Brandon Township Board Meeting Minutes - March 2, 2009

D. Brandon Township Board Study Session – March 5, 2009

All items accepted.

Disbursements:

Clarification sought for the following invoice(s):

- The Danielson Group (clarified the administrative overhead fee)
- Verizon North (determined that the DPW building phone should be disconnected)
- CM Construction (verified total paid for contracted plowing fees)

Motion by Trustee Champion, seconded by Trustee Nivelt, to approve disbursements in the amount of \$9,783.41.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Eschmann

Motion passed.

Public Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Glennis Hubbard stated concern regarding wording in the proposed Noxious Weed ordinance as it pertains to larger, possible partially wooded parcels that may have poison ivy.

Unfinished Business:

A. Weed & Grass Ordinance – Village Manager Coy

President Quisenberry referenced the Noxious Weed Ordinance provided to Council. It was clarified that the ordinance will be published annually (spring) to allow Village residents 30 days to comply. Discussion occurred regarding over intent of wording as it may pertain to larger parcels and types of weeds ordinance addresses. The Village Manager noted reasonableness of enforcement will be considered. Any weeds or grasses exceeding 8 inches in height will be in violation of the ordinance. The Village will address violations and charge the homeowner per the ordinance.

Trustee Eschmann arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Batten, seconded by Trustee Eschmann, to adopt the Noxious Weed Ordinance for the Village of Ortonville as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

B. Blight Ordinance - Village Manager Coy

There was discussion over the definition of “junk” as it pertains to the ordinance. The Village attorney and Tim Palulian have both reviewed this version of the ordinance.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Eschmann, to adopt the Blight Ordinance for the Village of Ortonville.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

New Business:

A. Brandon Township Fire Department – Chief Dave Kwapis

Chief Kwapis addressed Council requesting a policy change to the hiring of part-time firefighters. Instead of hiring before EMT training is completed, the policy would require an applicant to be a state licensed EMT for hiring consideration.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Kassuba, to approve the Brandon Fire Department policy change for hiring part-time firefighters.

All in favor, the Motion carried.

Chief Kwapis advised Council of two applicants under consideration for part-time openings. They both meet the state licensed EMT requirement. Chief Kwapis provided Council a brief summary of each applicants other qualifications. He noted that an upcoming full-time position will not be filled with a new full-time person.

Motion by Trustee Champion, seconded by Trustee Eschmann, to approve the hiring of the two applicants recommended by Chief Kwapis.

All in favor, Motion carried.

B. NSP - Village Manager Coy

Village Manager Coy advised Council of the status of the NSP program. The office staff is still evaluating the best method for managing to program. He noted that Lighthouse Community Development was the only proposal received. The program funds will become available by the end of week. The Subrecipient Agreement is due to the County by Thursday.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Nivelte, to sign the Subrecipient Agreement for the NSP program

Motion passed.

C. Employee Medical Insurance – Village Manager Coy

Village Manager Coy presented a spreadsheet of data gathered on health insurance plans for comparison. He made a recommendation to Council to change coverage to a McLaren plan from Blue Cross/Blue Shield. April is open enrollment.

Motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Nivelte, to change health insurance coverage to the recommended McLaren plan.

The Motion passed.

Trustee Kassuba opposed the Motion.

Public Comments (Items not on agenda):

Jim Byers – 335 Cedar Street

Mr. Byers advised Council of a hazardous situation with a fruit tree at 77 James Street. The tree hangs over the sidewalk. He recommended the tree be cut down. Also, he noted that there is a large amount of poisen ivy south of Troy’s Restoration on M-15. It was determined that this would be the responsibility of MDOT. Village Manager Coy advised Council that he has spoke with the homeowner at 77 James Street.

Items from Trustees:

Trustee Eschmann apologized for his late arrival. He asked for clarification in regards to the information from Jeannie McCreery that was provided in Council packets regarding Youth Assistance.

Trustee Champion requested information regarding the cost for having the Village assist homeowners in getting rid of their leaves. Village Manager Coy will provide the requested information.

Trustee Nivelt advised of the first BBE event schedule for June 12th. The schedule of events is on the website.

Trustee Green indicated that the Skate Park Committee met and agreed that the Skate Park is to open on March 30th. She also stated that they would like to offer Mr. Roerink the Supervisor position at \$10.00 per hour and a designated parking spot. The hours of operation would remain the same as last season. Village Manager Coy is to meet with Mr. Roerink.

President Quisenberry provided information to Council regarding the DDA attendance at Mainstreet training in Chicago. This trip was approved in the DDA budget and four representatives were able to attend due to special pricing on the train tickets.

Motion by **Trustee Batten**, seconded by Trustee Green, to adjourn the Village Council meeting. **All in favor, the Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Alexander
Village of Ortonville Clerk