

**Village of Ortonville**  
Township Offices – 395 Mill Street, Ortonville, MI 48462  
**Ortonville Village Council Meeting**  
**7-13-2009**

President Quisenberry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Batten, Green, Champion, Eschmann, Kassuba, Nivel, Quisenberry

Absent: None.

**Also Present:** Village Manager - Ed Coy, Village Treasurer – Larry Brown, Village Clerk – Heidi Barckholtz, Walt Renn- Renn Insurance, and approximately three other people.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Add item C “DDA Bike Night parade permit” at the request of President Quisenberry.

**Motion by Trustee Batten**, seconded by **Trustee Nivel**, to approve the agenda as amended.  
**All in favor, the Motion carried.**

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:**

A. Minutes of The village Council Meeting – June 22, 2009

Corrections: Page 5 - capitalize “Brown”

**Motion by Trustee Green**, seconded by **Trustee Eschmann**, to approve the minutes of June 22, 2009 Village Council Meeting Minutes with the correction to page 5.

**All in Favor, the Motion carried**

**Acceptance Items:**

**A. Fire Department Expenses May/June 2009**

Item accepted

**Disbursements:**

Clarification sought for the following invoice(s):

#9 Richfield Equities (Inquired if this is a monthly bill? How many dumpsters does this include? Does the Village receive a large amount of unsolicited garbage?)

#25 League Employee benefit Services (Concerned with the amount being paid for one employee insurance premium. Stated that it was just paid why is it coming up so soon and noted there has to be cheaper insurance out there.)

#1 AFLAC (Questioned what AFLAC is and why doe the village pay it?)

**Motion by Trustee Nivel**, seconded by **Trustee Eschmann**, to approve disbursements in the amount of \$13,514,61

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**Roll Call:**

**Ayes:** Green, Champion, Eschmann, Kassuba, Nivelte, Quisenberry

**Nays:** Batten

**Motion passed with a 6 to 1 vote.**

**Public Comments (Agenda Items Only):**

None.

**Unfinished Business:**

**A. Village Building Official**

Manager Coy updated the Council to the status of Brandon Township hiring a new inspector. Noted they have not hired anyone and both the Village and Township continue to utilize Steve McGee for building inspections. Trustee Kassuba again noted that Steve McGee as building inspector is not permanent. President Quisenberry questioned whether or not the Village should continue to piggyback or contract with the Township? Trustee Champion asked if Manager Coy did all the ordinance violation letters that were recently sent out and who would be following up with those? Manager Coy stated he would be the one to follow up and ensure the violations would be complied with. Discussion only, No action taken at this time.

**New Business:**

**A. Discussion of appearance of conflict of interest in NSP program**

President Quisenberry entered into discussion that upon the Village hiring Heidi Barckholtz as Village Clerk, there became an appearance of conflict of interest in regards to 21 Church St. Heidi Barckholtz lives directly north of the stated property, which is being purchased by the Village through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. NSP rules state it is necessary to make a public declaration of conflict of interest to be in accordance with HUD and NSP guidelines. President Quisenberry noted that he was doing nothing but stating a fact to document or put the appearance of conflict on record. Trustee Champion asked if this was all that had to be done to resolve the conflict and stated she was not clear what specifically this would resolve. President Quisenberry stated he was not clear on what will happen once things proceed with 21 Church St. because this is all very new ground for the Village and the Council. Trustee Batten questioned why 21 Church St. was a part of the NSP because it was not being rebuilt leaving an empty lot. His understanding the program was for purchasing homes that needed repair and then selling them. Manager Coy clarified that when applying for the grant they disclosed that 21 Church St. would not be rebuilt and through NSP guidelines it still qualified. Discussion only, No action taken at this time.

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**B. Additional Insurance Requirements-Walt Renn Insurance Agent**

Walt Renn from the Renn Insurance agency presented to the council the need for more insurance coverage for the Old Mill building. He noted that the buildings insured in the Village have an endorsement called an agreed policy and the policy was written off of what the MML contract listed. In November his office conducted a third party appraisal of Village property insured by them and found the agreed value is not what it should be, being the value is much greater. Mr. Renn stated that the Village needs to increase its coverage and the total premium increase for the next three months would be \$209.12. The increase for the year would be an additional \$800.00. Mr. Renn clarified that the Old Mill building is only insured at 100,000.00 and the building is being appraised at 1.1 million dollars. It was noted that the contents of the building are not owned by the Village rather the Historical Society so the amount being presented by Mr. Renn was for only the building not the contents. It was noted that the current insurance coverage for that building was inadequate. Trustee Batten asked why the insurance goes up when the economy is so poor? Trustee Batten voiced concern that the Renn Agency would come back next year asking for more money and again say the insurance was inadequate. Trustee Kassuba questioned Mr. Renn on who conducted the appraisal. He clarified that it was done by a third party appraisal company. Trustee Champion commented that is a huge increase in the buildings value because the building is irreplaceable. She questioned why the Village would spend 1 million to replace a building that cannot be replaced being it is considered a historical building. Mr. Renn noted the cost to rebuild the Old Mill would be high due to the current economy and market. Trustee Nivelt questioned what is market value of the Old Town Hall was and what would the village get tomorrow for market value? Mr. Renn stated that the additional coverage of \$209.15 for the five buildings is what the issue is not the market value. He noted that the Village had thirty days before action needed to be taken but advised making a decision by the next council meeting would be good. Trustee Eschmann questioned what the Village could do to check the 1.1 million value. It was noted that an independent appraiser could be hired to conduct a second appraisal to help determine the Old Mill's worth. Mr. Renn noted that if the Village did not increase their coverage the agreed policy endorsement would be removed from the policy and there would be a co-insurance penalty. He presented the formula on how they determine the cost of replacement. The formula would be "did" over "should" times the amount of the loss. President Quisenberry noted that no action would be taken at this time due to the need to research the issue further and actions would take place at the next council meeting.

**C. DDA Bike Night Parade Permit**

Manager Coy presented the requested Parade Permit from the DDA for Bike Night next Friday, June 17, 2009 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Manager Coy advised that the permit request was given to him the day before and wanted to offer encouragement to the DDA to submit requests sooner than the week prior to the event. Manager Coy noted that Sgt. Burkett from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department still needed to sign the permit. The permit requested the closure of Mill St. from Church to Pond St. Manager Coy noted that DDA checked with all the surrounding businesses and all were in favor of this. President Quisenberry also noted that he spoke with the owner of Papa Bellas and he is fine with the event being he and the Village Pub are the only two

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businesses that remain open during the bike night event. Trustee Champion asked who shuts the streets down? President Quisenberry clarified that would be the DDA. President Quisenberry recommended that the parade permit be approved upon the approval of the Oakland County Sheriff Department.

**Motion by Trustee Champion, seconded by Trustee Green** to approve the DDA Bike Night Parade Permit pending approval of the Oakland County Sheriff Department.

**All in favor, the Motion carried.**

**Public Comments (Items not on agenda):**

**NO comments**

**Items from Trustees:**

**Trustee Nivelt** – Congrats to Larry Brown on the birth of his new grandchild. She also questioned what house in the Village was going to be a burn house, and thought it was one of the NSP homes being purchased by the Village. Manager Coy stated none that he was aware of. She also spoke with Manager Coy and President Quisenberry about getting with the Brandon Township and Susan Bromley about the Cable Franchise article that ran in the June 11, 2009 issue of the Citizen.

**Trustee Green** - Stated she has an issue with the Council meetings being taped for the cable station. Questioned why this was being done in the first place because there is no microphone in use during the taping of the meetings. It has been stated that people watching the meeting on television cannot hear what is being said due to no microphone in use.

**Trustee Champion** – Attended a Historical Society meeting and the speaker was Veteran discussing flag etiquette. He pointed out to Trustee Champion that the Village is incorrectly displaying their flag at night. He noted that the flag must come down at night or a light of some sort must shine on it through out the night. Trustee Champion asked that the Village look into correcting this with a spot light. Manager Coy noted the current flagpole needs to be replaced due to disrepair and that a replacement pole could include a light of some sort. Trustee Champion also noted that Brandon Township resident Christi Sealbinder called her to complain about dogs running lose in the north end of the Village. Mrs. Sealbinder said she walks in the village and has become uncomfortable walking in that area because of the dogs. Trustee Champion questioned why the Village does not have the Sheriff's department write dog at large tickets? Coy stated that there have been serious issues with dogs running lose as well as dog bites and the issue definitely needs to be addressed. Should put another notice in Citizen concerning dog etiquette. Needs to be agenda item.

**Trustee Kassuba** – Stated she received another complaint about the Native Gardens at the Old Town Hall. President Quisenberry asked her what she would like to see happen there. Trustee

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Kassuba stated she would like to see the entire garden weed whipped and it should be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

**Closed Session:**

To discuss Strategy for negotiations of Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Motion** by **Trustee Batten**, seconded, by **Trustee Eschmann**, to move to a closed session after a brief five minute break to discuss the Strategy for negotiations of Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Nays:**

**All in favor, the Motion carried.**

**Moved to Closed Session at 8:15 pm.**

**Motion** by **Trustee Nivelt**, seconded by **Trustee Champion** to move to open session.

**All in favor, the Motion carried.**

**Moved to Open Session at 9:40 p.m.**

**Motion** by **Trustee Green**, Seconded by **Trustee Batten**, to adjourn the Village Council Meeting.

**All in favor, the Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Barckholtz  
Village Clerk

**\* I certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the July 13, 2009 meeting of the Ortonville Village Council, which were unanimously approved by the Ortonville Village Council on July 27, 2009.**

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**Heidi Barckholtz** Village Clerk