

APPROVED MINUTES  
MANCHESTER VILLAGE COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 19TH, 2018  
7:00 PM VILLAGE HALL

President Vaillencourt called the regular meeting of the Manchester Village Council to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present: Vaillencourt, Way, DuRussel, Dresch and Chartrand. Council members absent: Andrews and Woods. Also present were Manager Wallace, Clerk Schaible, John Seefeld (Manchester Township). Seth Kinker (Sun Times News) and Jeff Fahey (215 E. Main St.).

The minutes of the November 5th, 2018 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Way.

**AGENDA** – The agenda was approved as amended: deleting New Business D) Planning Commission and Reports: A) Sheriff; B) Parks, C) Planning Commission, D) DDA; E) Healthy Communities/Wellness Coalition; F) Joint Planning Commission; G) Building; H) Personnel Committee; I) Finance Committee on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Chartrand.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**-None

**OLD BUSINESS**-

**RIVER RAISIN PARK**- Wallace reported that the bids are set to go out November 26<sup>th</sup>. He confirmed with Council that the lights in the new park should be the same as those in the downtown area, perhaps a bit shorter. It was also suggested that the lights in ChiBro Park be updated to be consistent. Wallace is still working with Consumers Energy regarding the meter.

**PHASE II WALKING TRAIL**- Wallace presented an updated cost schedule to complete phase II of the Shared Use Trail. The costs have been modified to reflect materials be ordered by the Village and some work being completed by the Village DPW. The new projected Village portion of the cost is \$50,475. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by DuRussel, that the construction of Phase II of the Shared Use Trail be approved in the amount of \$183,975, with the Village portion not to exceed \$50,475. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion passed.

**BROADBAND DISCUSSION**-Dresch reported that Moutinho, on the Broadband Committee, had emailed verbiage that was to be printed on the back of the tax billings that are mailed in early December. The Township Board had agreed in concept but wanted the verbiage to be reviewed and included on all tax bills rather than just the township taxpayers as was originally proposed by Moutinho. The misinformation originally included regarding a millage never being considered and characterized as a rumor was removed. Timing became an issue and the information was unable to be included. Dresch also reported that at least one member of the committee is still considering a township wide millage. She also reported that the feasibility study is back, and although she was asked to not share the draft, it would take a lot of up-front funding to accomplish without a millage.

Andrews entered at this time.

Vaillencourt reported that the study has been shared with the Township Board and the

Committee is planning a townhall style meeting in January. She also reported that she had attended the Township Board meeting and, during public participation, questioned Dresch's exclusion from the committee process, who is handling the issues, and if the Board is still committed to not using millage to fund a broadband project. There was no response from the Board. Vaillencourt also reported that she has repeatedly emailed Lisa Moutinho, the committee chair, and has had no response.

A motion was made by Way, seconded by Dresch, that the Village consider a move toward becoming a city. The motion was discussed. Way noted that everything the Township is doing is going to very expensive to the village taxpayers. Council agreed that becoming a city is not an easy thing to think about and not where they want to go but that the Council would be derelict in its duty if it did not get an understanding of the process. Way noted that there is a lot of inequities and that there is only so much that the Village taxpayers can bear. Andrews referred to the withholding of information from the taxpayers and that the Village residents are township residents and taxpayers too. The Township Board is supposed to represent them too. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**SITE PLAN REVIEW-213/215 E. MAIN STREET-** Jeff Fahey, owner of 215 E. Main Street presented the plans to enlarge and remodel 213 and 215 E. Main Street. He indicated that now seems to be time to straighten the property issues out and contribute to the town's growth. After much discussion Jeff agreed that he would like the Council to consider the site plan with the walk way on the east side and decking and parking to be presented as an addendum at a later date. A motion was made by Andrews, seconded by Dresch, that the site plan be approved contingent upon the lots being legally combined and a legal, stake survey done on the resulting parcel. An occupancy permit would be contingent on lighting, colors/materials and signage details being provided. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion passed.

**RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA-**Wallace presented information regarding the recent passage of the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act. Council directed Wallace to develop the documents required to opt out of allowing marijuana establishments.

**VACANT BUILDING ORDINANCE-** Vaillencourt presented bullet point summaries of Adrian and Muskegon vacant properties ordinances. Council would like to support the DDA as they seek to strengthen the Central Business District. Vaillencourt will further detail the ordinances, have the DDA review them and bring them back to Council at a future date.

**2018 EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE INSURANCE-** Wallace reported that administration is recommending renewing the current BCN health care insurance plan for the full-time employees. He noted that the premium is increasing by 1.77%. We would also increase the employee's contribution toward the premium by the 1.77%. A motion was made by Way, seconded by Andrews, that the plan be approved as presented. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

**HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT OPT OUT RESOLUTION-** A motion was made by Way, seconded by Chartrand, that the Village adopt Resolution No.18-1119- Opting out of the publicly funded health insurance contribution act. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE-** Council acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Manchester Township Board meeting minutes from October 9, 2018.
- Notice of a Connecting Communities Project Award to Manchester Township for an engineering study to develop a Watkins Lake Trail.
- Unapproved Manchester Village Planning Commission meeting minutes of November

13, 2018.

- Notice of a River Raisin Watershed Council Strategic Planning meeting.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – Council reviewed the payables list. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Andrews, to approve for payment the list dated 11/19/2018 totaling \$135,866.50. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**- The October 2018 Treasurer’s report was acknowledged.

### **REPORTS**

**DDA**-Vaillencourt reported that the DDA has begun the business recognition awards and approved decals for winners. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday events have gotten attention from the Michigan Realtors Association and will receive recognition at a luncheon event. The DDA will also be placing luminaries down Main Street this year.

**DPW**- Wallace presented the report. He also noted that the seasonal volunteers continued the leaf pick-up even when the DPW crew had to attend to water main repairs.

**MANAGER**– Wallace presented his report. He also distributed information to explain becoming a city. He and Vaillencourt reported that they had attended a meeting to begin discussions of a 425 Agreement to accommodate a RV park at the Doan property in Manchester Township. A committee to continue the discussion and develop sample agreements is being formed. Vaillencourt asked council members to consider representing the Village on the committee.

There being no further business, President Vaillencourt adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Schaible, Village Clerk