

Manchester Village Citizens Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2019
Approved Minutes

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair, Jim Keller, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Denise Collins, Scott Dunsmore, Pat Fielder, Rick Finger, James Keller, Leslie Kiesel, Carol LaRock, Herb Mahony, Jack Gould

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Wallace (Village Manager), Marty Tungate, Margene Dunsmore, Pat Vaillencourt, Mariah Fink, Laurie Carey, Lisa Moutinho, Peter Psarouthakis, Robert Guysky and Ron Milkey.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA- Keller proposed moving Old Business ahead of Reports to accommodate the guest speaker. A motion was made by Gould to approve as proposed, Mahony seconded. Motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR PREVIOUS MEETING- A motion was made by Finger to approve, Gould seconded. Motion passed.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- Pat Vaillencourt

6. NEW BUSINESS-

- a. Mariah Fink, an attorney who was involved in the Dexter city status process, presented information regarding property tax assessments, elections and separation of assets. She gave pointers on the petition that would be signed by residents, talked about the charter process regarding city management and the steps involved in boundary approval.

7. REPORTS-

- a. Administration – Pat Vaillencourt, Village Council President, and Jeff Wallace, Village Manager, gave an overview of their meeting with the City of Jonesville and more details about becoming a city. The Jonesville representatives thought that cityhood was a benefit to their business sector and an overall positive move. They did run into a small boundary issue during the otherwise seamless process. It took about three years to complete the process from committee recommendation to charter completion. Jonesville kept a similar political structure, has not had any tax increases and was regarded as seamless in how the municipality functions. They went through a division of assets, which was an amicable process. Jonesville also mailed out FAQ's several times over the course of the three-year change. Additionally, they estimated the entire process cost \$60,000-\$65,000. Jonesville has added no staff as a result of the change to a city, though they contract an assessor for property assessments, and have not spent additional capital due to becoming a city. Keller suggested holding a public meeting in place of a Jonesville visit to get feedback from the community. Finger inquired about the availability of data or studies on how the separation of village from township affects the township. Wallace will check for this information.
- b. Chair – None
- c. Finance Committee – Wallace and Gould presented a revised version of tax changes for residents based on a home value of \$200,000 and an overview of the estimated impact on Manchester Township. LaRock asked for a percentage of the township's total budget rather than highlighting just a dollar value.

8. OLD BUSINESS-

- a. Jim Keller suggested inviting the public on May 7th to hear concerns and comments revolving around becoming a city. He also suggested starting the process of compiling and formatting the final report to fill in information as the process moves forward. Kiesel offered to start pulling together a final report structure and Collins offered to support. The Committee agreed that May 21st would be a better meeting to have public engagement.

- b. The Committee named a sub-committee of Kiesel and Finger to develop a Frequently Asked Questions information sheet.
9. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-** Peter Psarouthakis, Sharon Township Supervisor, expressed his concerns about the effects this could have on Sharon Township. They have developed a subcommittee to focus on this topic.

10. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by LaRock, seconded by Collins. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Kiesel