

**The Village of Lexington Common Council held a Regular Council Meeting Thursday, March 30, 2023 in the Council Chambers at 7227 Huron Avenue, Lexington, MI 48450**

**Call to order the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.** by President Kristen Kaatz

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by President Kristen Kaatz

**Roll call taken by** Clerk Vicki Scott

**Present:** Adams, Muoio, Morris, Klaas, DeCoster, Kaatz

**Absent:**

**Others present:** C. Cutright, E. Ehardt, S. McCoy, and 14 citizens

**ATTENDANCE –**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Elise Root (General Store) – commented on just being informed about the Social District and would like more information, not in favor.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA –** Motion by Morris, seconded by Adams, to approve the agenda as presented.

All ayes

Motion carried

**BUSINESS**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**A. EVANS EHARDT –** (County Commissioner) – Ehardt offers Cutright a signature of support for the DNR Grant.

**B. CYNTHIA CUTRIGHT –** Cutright explained it has been a busy month with meetings with different state agencies DNR and EGLE regarding the harbor project. No design or engineering work for the harbor project is expected before mid to late May. The RFPs are due by tomorrow and will need to go through the approval process. We have requested from the USDA that we go to bid on the sewer portion of the project. The water portion will be bid out separately. We are looking into a SPARK grant for the Parks & Rec Board's Lester Street Park improvement. Within the next week or two we should hear from EGLE as to whether or not received the bluff restoration grant that we submitted back in November. The biggest chunk of this month was spent on the Village Manager search. At this time, we do not have plans for an Interim Village Manager after my departure. The Personnel Committee did direct the staff screening committee to bring forward recommendations of candidates to the Personnel Committee to review by April 10, 2023. Cutright thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community. Working with the staff has been incredible as well as the committees and boards.

**C. MINUTES** – Motion by Adams, seconded by Morris, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 2, 2023, as presented.

All ayes

Motion carried

Motion by Klaas, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of March 15, 2023, as presented.

All ayes

Motion carried

**D. INVOICE – FLETCHER FEALKO SHOUDY & FRANCIS, P.C.** – Motion by Muoio, seconded by Adams, to approve the payment of \$675.00 to Fletcher Fealko Shoudy & Francis, P.C. (\$225.00 from the General Fund, \$90.00 from the Sewer Fund, \$90.00 from the Mobile Home Park Fund, \$225.00 from Zoning, and (\$45.00) from DDA.

Roll Call

Ayes- Muoio, Adams, Morris, Klaas, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays- None

Motion carried

**E. BUDGET AMENDMENTS** – Motion by Muoio, seconded by Morris, to approve the budget amendments as presented.

Discussion

Roll Call

Ayes- Muoio, Morris, Adams, DeCoster, Klaas, Kaatz

Nays- None

Motion carried

**F. UNION CONTRACT**– Motion by Klaas, seconded by Morris, to approve the 2023-2027 Union Contract as presented.

Discussion

Roll Call

Ayes – Klaas, Morris, Adams, Muoio, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

**G. MICHIGAN DNR TRUST FUND ACQUISITION GRANT** – Motion by Klaas, seconded by Adams, to approve the Michigan DNR Trust Fund Acquisition Grant for a portion of the Boardwalk Marina property.

Discussion

Roll Call

Ayes- Klaas, Adams, Muoio, Morris, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays- None

Motion carried

**H. RESOLUTION 2023-05 APPROVING THE CREATION OF A SOCIAL DISTRICT WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON** – Motion by DeCoster, seconded by Muoio, to approve Resolution 2023-05 as presented.

Discussion

Roll Call

Ayes – DeCoster, Muoio, Adams, Klaas, Kaatz

Nays - Morris

Motion carried

**I. ARBOR DAY PROCLAMATION** – Motion by Adams, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the 2023 Arbor Day Proclamation as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes – Adams, DeCoster, Klaas, Morris, Muoio, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

**J. PARKS & REC RESIGNATION** – Motion by Morris, seconded by Adams, to accept the resignation of Sue Pomilia from the Parks & Rec Committee.

All Ayes

Motion carried

**K. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT** – Motion by Klaas, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the appointment of Timothy Regan to the Planning Commission.

All Ayes

Motion carried

**L. VILLAGE TRUSTEE VACANCY** – Cutright explained we received two applicants for consideration. Council interviewed both candidates.

- 1. James Gresock** – What would you do to improve communications between the Village officials and the public; the Village officials need to communicate and participate more with the public. What is the most important issue facing the community; the harbor, parks, Gielow, and mobile home park. How can we fix the problem with retaining a Village Manager; retaining employees is very hard right now. What approach would you take in working with fellow council members; everyone has to have an open mind with different ideas. How can you be an effective council person; I have been effective in the past and I am back. How would you deal with disrespectful conflict among the council; intolerable with inappropriate behavior. How would you improve safety in the Village; I believe officers should be walking the streets in the Village. What would you like the Village to be known for in 5 years; music in the park, addressing the harbor issue. As a council person what areas do you want to work on; I want to be involved again. What are your thoughts on a full day council team building training; it would be very important.

2. **Barb Schultz** – Describe your approach to solving problems; research and interact with people. What is the most important issue facing the Village; finances and working with council. How can we fix the problem with retaining a Village Manager; researching how the problem is created and finding a solution to fixing it. What approach would you take in working with fellow council members; listen to everyone first before making any decisions. How can you be an effective council person; work for the residents, doing all the research first. When making decisions how do you determine what is in the best interest of the Village; where the residents and Village both profits. What would you like the Village to be known for in 5 years; the best resort, friendly Village and teamwork. How do you deal with conflict with another council person or inappropriate behavior; speak to them first and call for a meeting to work things out. As a council person what areas do you want to work on; my interest is in the mobile home park and to work together. What are your thoughts on a full day council team building training; it is very important and would look forward to it.

Cynthia explained to council please make sure you write your name as well as your top choice for candidate on your score sheet. Cynthia collected the score sheets and explained it is a tie vote. Per Village policy the Council can vote up to two additional times. Council members vote again with another tie vote. Council members vote a third time and Cynthia announced James Gresock won the trustee vacancy with 4 votes. Council congratulated James Gresock on becoming the new trustee.

**M. VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON PROJECT MANAGER PROPOSAL** – Cutright explained she is willing stay on as the project manager for the upcoming grant projects. Her wage would come from the administrator portion of the grant funds. If approved, Cutright would stay on as a part time employee.

Motion by Morris, seconded by Muoio, to go into closed session to discuss negotiations at 8:11 p.m.

Roll Call

Ayes – Morris, Muoio, Adams, DeCoster, Klaas, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

Motion by Morris, seconded by DeCoster to resume open session at 8:30 p.m.

All Ayes

Motion carried

Motion by Morris, seconded by Muoio, to approve the Village of Lexington Project Manager Service Proposal as outlined, compensation being \$50 per hour up to 15 hours per week including milage and miscellaneous expenses as a part time employee; in addition to also raise the hiring salary of the Village Manager position that is posted to \$90,000.00 per year due to cost of living increases to make it more marketable and speed up that process to fill that position as that is part of this proposal until this position is filled.

Roll Call

Ayes – Morris, Muoio, Adams, Klaas, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

## **MOBILE HOME PARK**

**A. MHP LOT DEPOSIT REFUNDS** – Motion by Klaas, seconded by DeCoster, to approve the lot deposit refund to Jill Fugate Lot #24 in the amount of \$564.26.

Roll Call

Ayes – Klaas, DeCoster, Adams, Muoio, Morris, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

## **WATER/SEWER/DPW/STREETS**

**A. CONCRETE BIDS** – Motion by Klaas, seconded by Muoio, to accept the bid of Martin Concrete as recommended by the Village Manager and Utilities Manager.

Discussion

Roll Call

Ayes – Klaas, Muoio, Adams, Morris, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

**FINANCIAL REPORTS** – Motion by Morris, seconded by Adams, to approve the check register in the amount of \$112,412.84 check numbers 37684 through 37746 and financial reports as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes- Morris, Adams, Muoio, DeCoster, Klaas, Kaatz

Nays- None

Motion carried

## **REPORTS –**

### **CORRESPONDENCE-**

- Lexington Arts Council Music Schedule
- Arbor Day Invitation

Kaatz offers a moment of silence to honor Peggy Stencil.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mike Fulton (5727 Union) – commented on team building, free MML training programs, and the benefit of doing exit interviews.
- Mickey Bender – commented on doing exit interviews and thanked both the Council for approving the Union Contract and Cynthia Cutright for all her hard work during her time here.
- Elise Root (General Store) – commented on the social district boundaries as to how the Village will police this.

**COUNCIL PERSON COMMENTS**

- DeCoster commented on working with the Village President during this time of not having a manager and read the definition of Sabotage referring to a previous public comment made by Beth Grohman.
- Klaas commented on working with all parties for the social districting and assured retail owners are being heard.
- Morris commented on the importance of exit interviews and team building.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Kaatz adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted  
Vicki Scott, Village Clerk

I, Vicki Scott, (Village Clerk), do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of the minutes approved by the Village of Lexington Village Council at a regular meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved