

**Village of Decatur**  
**Village Council Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday January 3, 2023, at 7:00 P.M  
Village Hall, 114 N. Phelps Street  
Decatur, MI 49045

I. President Elwaer called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. **Roll Call**

Clerk/Treasurer, Duncan provided roll call; Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, President Pro Tem Jackson, Trustee Mead Jr., Trustee Pachner, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Elwaer in attendance. Also in attendance Village Manager, Christopher Tapper, Village Clerk/Treasurer, Megan Duncan, Chief of Police Thomas VanDerWoude, and DPW Foreman James Ebeling.

III. **Public Comments**

- a. Tom Creagan gave comments about Ordinance 192, Idling of vehicles. He recommended that it be amended to include semi-trucks. Staff indicated there was a formal application process for such concerns.

IV. **Approval of Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Accounts Payable**

- a. President Pro Tem Jackson made a motion with support from Trustee Mead Jr. to approve the amended agenda for January 3, 2023, along with approval of meeting minutes from December 5, 2022, and accounts payable ending December 31, 2022, in the amount of \$222,193.33, motion carried 7-0.

V. **Communications to the Council – Presentation & Guest**

- a. Chief of Police VanDerWoude introduced Officer Bush to council. Officer Bush is new to the Village and just recently graduated the police academy. Clerk/Treasurer Duncan swore in Officer Bush with his oath of office.

VI. **Public Hearing**

No Public Hearing was held.

VII. **Unfinished Business**

- a. No unfinished business currently.

VIII. **New Business – Request to review Village owned property – parking lot W. Sherwood Street**

- a. Discussion was made with council members concerning the parcels presented. Parcel one was favored over parcel two. Concerns with parcel two was parking is used by all businesses within the area.

IX. **New Business – Request to schedule a Public Hearing Monday, February 6, 2023 (FY 23 & FY 24 Budget).**

- a. Trustee Pachner made a motion with the support from Trustee Pelfrey to schedule the amended Public Hearing for Monday, February 6, 2023 (FY 24), motion carried 7-0.

X. **New Business - Request to review Village Millages and Fee Schedule for FY 2024 Budget.**

- a. Discussion was made with council members concerning the Village Millage rates and water and sewer rates.

XI. **New Business –Request to approve Final Gravity Brewing Company Loan deferment.**

- a. President Pro Tem Jackson made a motion with the support from Trustee Mead Jr to approve Final Gravity Brewing Company Loan deferment, motion carried 6-0.

XII. **Department Reports**

- a. Clerk/Treasurer Duncan, Chief of Police, Thomas VanDerWoude, and DPW Forman, James Ebeling provided Department Reports to the Council. Each department report was provided in the agenda packet. A general discussion ensued regarding the department reports.
- b. Chief of Police VanDerWoude presented the outcome of the toy give away that was held on December 13, 2022, to council.

XIII. **Public Comments**

- a. No public comment was given.

XIV. **Council Comments & Additional Public Comments**

- a. President Elwaer and President Pro Tem Jackson expressed how well DPW handled the most recent snowstorm. They also thanked all departments for their hard work.
- b. Trustee Benson announced her resignation.

**XV. Request to enter closed session for Strategy and Negotiation session connected with the negotiation of collective bargaining agreement (MFOP). OMA Act 267 of 1976, MCL 15.268, Article C.**

- a. President Pro Tem Jackson made a motion with support from Trustee Mead Jr. to close Regular Council Meeting session and enter closed session at 7:33 P.M, for Strategy and Negotiation session connected with the negotiation of collective bargaining agreement (MFOP). OMA Act 267 of 1976, MCL 15.268, Article. Roll Call Vote Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, President Pro Tem Jackson, Trustee Mead Jr., Trustee Pachner, Trustee Pelfrey, President Elwaer, all voting yes, motion carried 7-0.
- b. Trustee Pelfrey made a motion with support from Trustee Mead Jr. to close closed session and to reenter the Regular Council Meeting at 7:54 P.M. Roll Call Vote Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, President Pro Tem Jackson, Trustee Mead Jr., Trustee Pachner, Trustee Pelfrey, President Elwaer, all voting yes, motion carried 7-0.

**XVI. Adjournment**

- a. Trustee Benson made a motion with the support of Trustee Gunther to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 P.M., motion carried 7-0. Minutes submitted by Megan Duncan, Village Clerk/Treasurer.