

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

Monday, February 7, 2022, at 7:00 P.M  
Village Hall, 114 N. Phelps Street  
Decatur, MI 49045

I. President Pro Tem Jackson 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 Pelfrey, Trustee Verran,(excused) and President Elwaer (excused) in attendance. Also in attendance Village Manager, Christopher Tapper, Village Clerk/Treasurer, Megan Duncan, Chief of Police Thomas VanDerWoude, and Decatur Public Works Foreman James Ebeling.

III. **Public Comments**

- a. Chief of Police Thomas VanDerWoude presented to the public the new part time Patrol Officer Richard Gibbs Jr.
- b. Donald Hanson, Van Buren County Commissioner, discussed the availability of ARPA funds for broadband within Van Buren County. He also described his 54 years as an elected official and his plan to not file for another term.

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

- a. Trustee Gunther made a motion with support from Trustee Mead Jr. to approve the agenda for February 7, 2022, along with approval of meeting minutes from January 3, 2022, and accounts payable in the amount of \$163,097.09, motion carried 5-0.

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

- a. Zach Morris, EDFP, Executive Director for Market Van Buren presented Market Van Buren and their principle responsibilities for economic and community development throughout Van Buren County.

**VI. Public Hearing**

a. President Tem Jackson requested to hold a Public Hearing on Resolution 2022-02 Fiscal Year Budget 2023, Annual Appropriation Bill March 1, 2022- February 29, 2023, and subsequently adopt Resolution 2022-02.

Trustee Pelfrey made a motion, with the support of Trustee Gunther approving the request to hold a public meeting, Roll Call Vote: Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, Trustee Mead Jr, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Pro Tem Jackson, all voting yes, motion carried 5-0. Time entering public hearing 7:29. P.M.

Manager Tapper took questions from Council and answer appropriately. Let the record show no public comment was offered. A general discussion ensued regarding the appropriation bill.

Trustee Gunther made a motion with support from Trustee Mead Jr. to come out of Public Hearing, all voting yes, motion carried 5/0. End of Public Hearing, 7:39 P.M.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

a. Manager Tapper presented updates on the USDA – Water System Improvements and Wastewater System Improvements.

**VIII. New Business – Request to adopt Resolution 2022-01 Fiscal Year Budget 2022 Amendments**

a. Trustee Benson made a motion with the support of Trustee Gunther to adopt Resolution 2022-01 Fiscal Year Budget 2022 Amendments. Roll Call Vote: Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, Trustee Mead Jr, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Pro Tem Jackson, all voting yes, motion carried 5-0.

**IX. New Business – Request to adopt Resolution 2022-03 MDOT Contract STL80000 (Prairie Ronde).**

a. Trustee Gunther made a motion with the support of Trustee Pelfrey to adopt Resolution 2022-03 MDOT STL80000 (Prairie Ronde). Roll Call Vote: Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, Trustee Mead Jr, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Pro Tem Jackson, all voting yes, motion carried 5-0.

**X. New Business – Approve the recommendation for DHFDA for capital expenditure from West Shore Fire.**

a. Trustee Pelfrey made a motion with the support of Trustee Mead Jr. approving the recommendation for DHFDA for capital expenditure from West Shore Fire. Motion carried 5-0.

**XI. New Business – Adopt amendments to Ordinance 2019-003 Rental Ordinance.**

- a. Trustee Gunther made a motion with the support of Trustee Mead, Jr. to adopt amendments to Ordinance 2019-003 Rental Ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

**XII. Department Reports**

Manager Tapper, Chief of Police, Thomas VanDerWoude, and Decatur Public Works Foreman 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.

**XIII. Council Comments & Additional Public Comments**

- a. President Pro Tem Jackson thanked each department for the hard work they are doing for the Village and its residents. Manager Tapper requested to add Upjohn to March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 agenda for their generous donations to the Police Department.

**XIV. Closed Session – Request to enter into Closed Session, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, section 15.268 Closed Session: permissible purposes, article (h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.**

- a. Trustee Pelfrey made a motion with the support of Trustee Benson to enter Closed Session, in accordance with the Open Meeting Act, section 15.268, Roll Call Vote: Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, Trustee Mead Jr, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Pro Tem Jackson, all voting yes, motion carried 5-0. Time entered Closed Session, 7:59 P.M.
- b. Trustee Gunther made a motion with the support of Trustee Mead Jr. to end Closed Session, Roll Call Vote: Trustee Benson, Trustee Gunther, Trustee Mead Jr, Trustee Pelfrey, and President Pro Tem Jackson, all voting yes, motion carried 5-0. Time Closed Session ended, 8:35 P.M.

**XV. Adjournment**

- a. Trustee Gunther made a motion with the support from Mead Jr. to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 P.M. Minutes submitted by Megan Duncan, Village Clerk/Treasurer.