

City of Petersburg
Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting
August 7, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Petersburg Municipal Building
24 E. Center Street
Petersburg, MI 49270

A Regular Meeting of the Council for the City of Petersburg was held on the above date.
The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, James W. Holeman
Councilpersons present were Charles Bruckner, Richard Haller, Lawrence Schadewald, and Joanne Tollison.
Absent: Terri Bauer, Kevin Richards

Moved by Tollison to approve the agenda as printed. Supported by Haller. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried

Minutes of the last meeting were presented to Council in printed form as recorded.
Moved by Bruckner that the minutes of the previous meeting, 7/17/17, be approved.
Supported by Schadewald. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Doris Sheldon, community librarian, explained Solar Eclipse Program on August 21, H.U.G.S. (Helping Us Grow Stronger) program and asked if the high school football team can volunteer to repair the wooden fence along the City parking lot. Mayor said as long as the fence is City owned, they can work on it.

Chuck Miller voiced concerns on the location of the Safe Route sidewalk in front of his house and asked why it comes closer to his home than his neighbors. Mayor advised him to obtain a property description from Monroe County and have someone help him determine his property lines.

New Business:

Discussed and heard public comment regarding rezoning of Center and Wood Street block from commercial to residential as recommended by Planning Commission at the request of Doris Sheldon. Roger and Karen Lewis are not in favor of rezoning as it limits the options for their property. Building Inspector Todd Roach reported that Lisa Taylor contacted him and was unsure if the rezoning would affect her resale value. Mrs. Sheldon is requesting the rezoning as it is difficult to secure a bank loan for improvements as a commercial property. Mrs. Sheldon will let Dawn Cilley, Planning Commission chair, know in the next few days if she would like to proceed with another meeting of the Planning Commission, at no charge to her, to further discuss options. Roach asked if letters should have gone out to properties across Center Street, in addition to the properties being affected.

Moved by Tollison to continue employer contribution to MERS at phase-in amount of 5.84%. Supported by Bruckner. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried.

Moved by Bruckner to not use direct deposit for payroll due to added cost. Supported by Haller. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried.

An unpaid and illegal water tap was recently discovered on Ida West Road in Summerfield Township. The potential new property owner contacted DPW supervisor Salenbien when he could not locate a water meter but was told there was City water. A meter was immediately installed but the \$9,500 tap fee was never paid by the previous owner who is now deceased and the property was bank owned. The property was purchased even after warning the new owner that the tap was unpaid. Mayor will contact City attorney on how to proceed and about placing a lien on the property.

Mayor reports the State is considering legislation that would require water meters to be read every 2 months, instead of quarterly.

Haller has resigned from Rec Commission.

Old Business:

Discussed raise options for DPW department, decided to move annual wage review from July to December when new insurance rates are available, and make a decision prior to January payroll. The Employee Handbook will be amended to reflect the change.

Moved by Haller to grant four DPW workers a .43 raise, retroactive to July 1, 2017 until December 31, 2017 at which time Council will review wages for 2018. Supported by Bruckner. Roll Call Vote. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried.

Moved by Bruckner that Council adjourn at 8:45p.m. Supported by Tollison. Aye (5) Nay (0) Absent (2) Motion carried.

Guests: Dawn Cilley, Roger & Karen Lewis, Chuck Miller, Todd Roach, Doris Sheldon
Employees: Leanne Goodin, Trudy Goodin

Minutes submitted by: _____ Leanne Goodin, Clerk

Minutes approved by: _____ Mayor James W. Holeman