

# FOWLER VILLAGE COUNCIL



President  
Vernon J. Thelen  
President Pro-Tem  
David Klein  
Trustees  
Roy Smith  
John Childers  
Jim Braman  
Rick Fink  
Greg Halfmann

Treasurer  
John C. Rademacher  
Clerk  
Rhonda Feldpausch  
DPW Employees  
Vern Feldpausch  
Brad Smith

DATE: NOVEMBER 11, 2013

The Fowler Village Council met Monday, November 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM with President Thelen presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag. Roll was called and a quorum reported. Present were: David Klein, Rick Fink, Roy Smith, Greg Halfmann, Jim Braman, John Childers, and Rhonda Feldpausch. Absent: John Rademacher.

VILLAGE PERSONNEL

Vern Feldpausch.

VISITORS

Sergeant Kyle Knight – Clinton County Sheriff Department, Ken and Kathy Farley, Bonnie Thelen, Joy Stump, Tami and Curt Rademacher, Tom and Diann Foersch, Erwin and Alice Pline, Karen Schneider, Dennis and Diane Simon, Dan Simon, and Mike Porter.

AGENDA

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Klein moved, supported by Trustee Smith, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Correction to the minutes of the October 14, 2013 meeting: add meeting adjournment time of 9:04 PM.

BILLS

Payment of \$3,177.98 to Park Avenue Lighting from Major Street Fund was removed from bill listing pending further progress on Consumers Energy rebate for installation of LED lighting.

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Klein moved, supported by Trustee Fink, to approve payment of \$22,839.68 from the General Fund, \$2,469.09 from the Water O & M Fund, \$1,585.77 from the Sanitary Sewer O & M fund, and \$262.27 from the Storm Sewer Fund. Motion carried.

ZONING PERMITS

None.

CLINTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Sergeant Kyle Knight presented statistics for last month. Kyle also reported that Halloween was a quiet night and that the Clinton County Sheriff Dept. is currently at full staff. Sergeant Knight also reported that the Animal Control is operational with hours of 8-5. There will be restitution payments to Fowler Schools for damages.

TREASURER REPORT

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Klein, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

A copy of the zoning amendments recommended by the Planning Commission was presented to the council for review. Action is expected at the December meeting.

DPW REPORT

Vern Feldpausch reported on the following issues:

- Cell #2 sampling and discharging
- Wash and wax equipment and store for winter
- Lift station cleaning
- Valve preventative maintenance program
- Water meter replacement
- Water reliability study

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Work in progress.

STREET RESOLUTIONS

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Smith, to remove Street Resolutions adding streets to the village street system until further notice. Motion carried.

**ASPHALT BIDS** **BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Smith, to remove Asphalt Bids from the agenda until further notice. Motion carried.

**FEE SCHEDULE** **BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Smith, to remove Fee Schedule from the agenda until further notice. Motion carried.

**NEWSLETTER** If there is an interest in the creation of a newsletter, ideas for content should be shared with the Village Clerk.

**DAVE POHL, CLINTON COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER** Dave Pohl, Clinton County Drain Commissioner was present and reported that the Animal Shelter is operational, the County has adopted a balanced budget for 2014, completion of Rails to Trails from Ionia to Owosso should be by the end of next year and the Motz Park expansion could be closing soon.

**REINSTATEMENT OF ASPHALTING POLICY FOR FUTURE STREET DEVELOPMENT** Several residents were present to discuss the reinstatement of an asphaltting policy for future street development. Some of the new issues discussed and comments from residents were as follows:

- Inquiry with legal counsel and Michigan Municipal League regarding proper procedure for Council response to document received with several signatures in opposition to reinstatement of paving policy was unhelpful. Clinton County Clerk, Diane Zuker, advised against the creation of a policy designed to outline steps to address such documents.
- May be advisable revisit the motion made at the August meeting
- Tyler Drive is not currently under village control therefore it is not considered a retroactive move when considering it for the new paving policy
- Letters from Clare and Elaine Schaefer. Ronn and Beth Thelen were read by President Thelen
- Curt Rademacher shared some of his thoughts
- Dennis Simon expressed his displeasure at terms such as “scam” used to describe some practices of Community Developers
- No interest from larger developers such as Motz or ET Mackenzie because small communities are not profitable enough
- Past community members that “stuck their necks out” to improve village by developing also viewed negatively likely due to jealousy
- Village once had a full-line grocery but failed due to lack of support
- Long ago direction from community and its leaders to remain a bedroom community so let’s try to be the best bedroom community possible
- An example of how Belding works with developers was presented
- Lots of incorrect information sharing is occurring

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Childers moved, supported by Trustee Fink, to again show support for the council’s action at the August 26, 2013 Special Meeting to put policies in place to incur 100% asphalt costs for future street development. The new policy would include fiscally responsible guidelines to determine annual expenditures. Roll call vote: R. Smith – Aye, J. Childers – Aye, G. Halfmann – Aye, J. Braman – Aye, V. Thelen – Aye, R. Fink – Aye, D. Klein – Aye. Motion carried.

**FLOODING PROBLEM** Clinton County Drain Commissioner’s Office has televised the drain that runs under Quality Dairy and has determined that the drain is in poor shape and needs to be relocated. Further work will be done on the south and east end of the village.

**CORRESPONDENCE** Clare and Elaine Schaefer – Letter in opposition to changing asphalt policy  
Ronn and Beth Thelen – Letter requesting removal of their names from the document in opposition to changing the asphalt policy  
Curt Rademacher – Letter in support of changing the asphalt policy

**10 MINUTE OPEN DISCUSSION**

- Trustee Halfmann will address issue of leaves that were left in front of a residence on Kent Street

**ADJOURNMENT** **BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Klein moved, supported by Trustee Fink, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

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Rhonda Feldpausch, Village Clerk