

**VILLAGE OF GOODRICH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 13, 2009
7:00PM
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President York

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS YORK, MOREY, HORTON, WARTELLA, LUCIK
CLERK SCHIERUP, ADMINISTRATOR SIDGE
ABSENT: NONE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION: To approve agenda as presented.
Moved by Horton, Seconded by Morey
Wartella Yes, Horton Yes, Lucik Yes, Morey Yes, York Yes. Carried**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting June 8, 2009

**MOTION: To approve as presented.
Moved by Horton, Seconded by Morey
Lucik Yes, Wartella Yes, Horton Yes, Morey Yes, York Yes. Carried**

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES: June 29, 2009

**MOTION: To approve minutes as presented.
Moved by Morey, Seconded by Lucik
Morey Yes, Lucik Yes, Wartella Yes, Horton Yes, York Yes. Carried**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

General Fund	196,606.04
Major Roads	13263.90
Minor Roads	21803.95
96 Debt Retire	46426.09
Sewer Fund	133891.45
Sewer Bond	18661.91
MTF	50.85
Public Imp.	10698.30
2003 Debt Retire	53.94
SF CD	178747.21
SF CD	101,424.75
Total	712419.90

**MOTION: To accept the treasurer's report balances for the month ending 6/30/2009 as presented.
Moved by Morey, Seconded by Lucik
Horton Yes, Morey Yes, Lucik Yes, Wartella No, York Yes. Carried**

BILLS AND TRANSFER

MOTION: To approve the Bills and Transfers for the month ending 6/30/2009 in the amount of \$99,905.87.

Wartella asked why the sewer bills were not on the report. Sidge responded that the usage amount was in dispute and being corrected by the county and that the maintenance bill was included in the report. Wartella asked what the amount was on the disputed invoice. York stated that the motion was to approve paid invoices. The unpaid invoice was available to her in the office.

**Moved by Morey, Seconded by Lucik
Wartella Yes, Lucik Yes, Morey Yes, Horton Yes, York Yes. Carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharleen Gonzalez - 9049 Liscom Road asked that the following letter be read into the minutes:

Dear Members of the Atlas Township Board, the Goodrich Council and the People of Atlas Township and Village of Goodrich,

Being that the Goodrich Library is an important service to the people of Goodrich and Atlas Township, and Its presence is desired and used by large numbers of people, and

The Library and its facility have a deep historical importance in the communities,

We ask the Goodrich Village Council and Atlas Township Board of Supervisors to:

1. Allow the Library to continue to be a functioning, integral part of our community.
2. Find an equitable solution to pay for continuing maintenance and upkeep of the building housing the library.
3. Get estimates as to the costs of the various repairs needed both from the latest storm damage and interior work on the walls, paint, and carpet.
4. The Friends of the Goodrich-Atlas Library was formed to assist in the needs of the Library, and became a recognized charitable organization, a 501(3) (c). Given our history in purchasing and providing all the library furnishings, support for programs, and volunteering for both the library and community events, the Friends of the Library ask the responsible bodies to include the Friends in discussions involving the library.

On behalf of the Friends and interested members of the community, we present these requests.

Sincerely, Sharleen Gonzalez and Nancy Dugas, Vice President. Friends of the Goodrich-Atlas Library

Dan Coldren - 10148 Hawthorne Ridge - Ask what preparations were made for meetings and when packets were made available for council. York responded that packets were available on the Friday preceding the meeting at noon.

(Wartella responded to Mr. Coldren and was told that all comments must be directed to the chair and as such she would be out of order if she continued to talk. Wartella stated that she was a councilmember and allowed to be heard. Wartella was called out of order and all further comment stricken from the record.)

Coldren - Asked if Wartella had ever met with office staff or board members prior to a meeting to have her questions answered. York answered to his knowledge, no.

Coldren - Stated that a recall should not be happening.

Norm Bass - 10150 Hawthorne Ridge stated the village has a history of improving the village. The village looks good and management and maintenance of our village is not free. Our board members are dedicated and need to work together. People who have moved here were aware of the State tax structure.

Terry Christner - 10306 Park Drive - Made the following statement: Based upon previous involvement with the numerous recalls and dissolving of the Village of Goodrich, I feel strongly that Mrs. Wartella has violated the oath of office that she took and therefore I am calling for her resignation effective immediately.

Diane Fredericks - 7476 Tara Court - Asked why the council had increased the costs of sewers, cable and garbage collection. The sewer costs are set by the Village and Genesee County, the cable company is privately owned and garbage collection costs have gone down. York asked where she had gotten the information on bidding that she had published in the local papers as he would like to know the name of the company that was purportedly denied. Fredericks stated she did not have the information with her. York stated she did not have the information here or anywhere as the council voted to extend the current contract in March of this year and no bidding took place.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. POLICE REPORT – None

2. REPORTS:

Street Administrator – Morey felt that recent letters published in the local papers by both Wartella and Fredericks were not based in fact as all the information was incorrect. If the village went to Genesee County for road maintenance the roads would not be plowed for days, the village would be considered a subdivision and not a county priority. M-15 has already been downgraded by the county and the result was evident during the storms last winter. This was information per Mr. Daly, the director of the county road commission.

911 – 911 and reverse 911 were recently used to find two missing children. Council thanked all the emergency personnel and community members who were notified and responded to the successful recovery of the two young adventurers.

Water & Waste – No Report

Small Cities & Villages –

Parks and Recreation – Farmers Market vendors sold out in first two hours last week.

3. SAFETY PROJECT ERIE STREET – No Report

4. PATHWAY – No Report

5. HEGEL ROAD BRIDGE – No Report

6. CODE ENFORCEMENT – No Report

7. ADMINISTRATIVE – Sidge asked to be allowed to set the record straight as her name was used in a recent newspaper article. *The village employees have had wages frozen for two years. All village employees are grateful for what we have. Health benefits were cut this year with a savings over last year's rate of \$8000.00. It will cost employees more for their prescriptions, office visits and co-pay. The employees do not receive dental and vision and do not have a pension. Eight Genesee County communities were surveyed regarding wages. Five responded as follows, wages were frozen in two*

communities, 2% raises were given by two communities and 3% by the fifth community. Davison is a one square mile community and has 8 DPW employees as compared to our 3. No wages were decreased in the survey. As to my car allowance, I drive to meeting all over Genesee County and the State of Michigan. If I have to go to the Michigan Municipal League offices in Ann Arbor it is a 141.8 mile trip or \$77.99 at today's rate. That is just one meeting. The meetings I attend are important to the Village as they generate funding for projects such as the M-15 streetscape project, the bike path and bridge and road repair. Anyone can take over attending the meetings or ride with me. As far as the bidding process for the waste contract, as Mr. York stated, there were no bids. I do not have the authority to deny bids or request them. That is a decision made by the council and was made in March. Mr. York sets the final agenda as President. Mr. Garman of Richfield disposal stated in an email that he met with me and understands that we did not go out for bid. As far as the expensed of the village being out of control, they are not. In June I distributed a three year comparison to the proposed budget. Looking at our general fund, expenses were reduced as follows; 06/07 \$737,279.07, 07/08 700,120.08, 08/09 575,955 to date. The final figures are not in for this year as we have a few outstanding bills but at this point we have over \$50,000 to add to last years fund balance of over \$177,000.00. We anticipated \$27,000 revenue over expense but it will be much more than that. I was asked by council to propose a budget keeping the same service level. This was reviewed by council with crack sealing deleted for the 09/10 fiscal year. All other services to the residents will remain the same. All expenses and revenues were reviewed and expenses were reduced where necessary leaving revenues f approx. \$8000.00 not allocated. Wartella did not ask any questions regarding the budget other than to make a statement that wages, benefits and hours should be reduced, especially in the Department of Public Works. Again all services to the community are scheduled and without the current DPW this would not be the case. When the budget was adopted, Wartella did not vote as she left the meeting. My correct title is Village Administrator not Village Manager. At least get that right in the paper.

SIDEWALKS – M-15 and Cemetery at Creekside are scheduled in the next few weeks.

9. LIBRARY – York detailed the past and current issues facing the Library and stated that the village had been attempting to work with the township with little or no cooperation until the election of new township officials. Supervisor Kautman-Jones has asked the village to present a proposal. He explained that because village residents are township taxpayers they are paying twice for the library upkeep and that approximately 75% of the cost of maintaining the building as a library is currently being paid by village taxpayers. Village residents comprise 25% of the library users. York stated that a township millage or assessment has to be decided at the township level as the village does not have that authority. This would secure the library and possibly allow for future expansion to the upper level. All council members agreed that the library was an asset to the community. York proposed that the village could gradually withdraw financial support to facilitate a restructuring of the funding that would remove the duplication of taxes.

MOTION: The village funding of the library would be decreased in increments as follows. Village taxpayers would pay \$6000.00 toward expenses for 2009, \$4000.00 for 2010, \$2000.00 for 2011 and zero by 2012.

Moved by York, seconded by Lucik

Lucik Yes, Horton Yes, Morey Yes, Wartella Yes, York Yes. Carried

10. WHEELOCK-WATKINS DRAIN - Sidge explained the drain has been an issue since 1996. The county had submitted a tentative proposal for council to discuss. York stated that this proposal will add a financial burden to homeowners that is coming at a very bad time. Council directed Sidge to continue meeting with the county.

11. DUTCH ROAD PROPERTY - Sidge explained the Genesee County Land Bank currently has a six acre parcel on Dutch Road available for \$6000.00. This parcel is located within the village limits, so the Village has the right of first refusal. The village can purchase or refuse. The council decided by consensus to refuse.

NEW BUSINESS

1. RESOLUTION 2009-17 HURLEY MILLAGE

A resolution to join the City of Flushing in a legal action to set aside the August 4, 2009 election by Genesee County. The election is to approve a millage to provide health care services at Hurley Medical Center. The city of Flushing is questioning the authority of the county to levy a millage to support a facility owned by the City of Flint. They are requesting a monetary donation to help offset the legal fees.

MOTION: To adopt resolution 2009-17.

Moved by York, Seconded by Horton

Wartella No, Lucik No, Horton No, Morey No, York No. Denied

2. RESOLUTION 2009-18 SEWER USAGE RATE

MOTION: To adopt resolution 2009-18.

Moved by York, Seconded by Morey

Morey Yes, Wartella No, Lucik Yes, Morey Yes, York Yes. Carried

3. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 08/09 BUDGET CLOSING

MOTION: To adopt final budget amendment.

Moved by York, Seconded by Morey

Horton Yes, Morey Yes, Wartella Yes, Lucik Yes, York Yes. Carried

4. MML WORKERS COMP FUND BALLOT

MOTION: To vote for Larry Nielson, Manager, Village of Paw Paw, for the Board of Trustees, Michigan Municipal League, Worker's Compensation Fund.

Moved by York, Seconded by Morey

Morey Yes, Wartella Yes, Lucik Yes, Horton Yes, York Yes. Carried

5. CLOSE SEWER BOND CHECKING ACCOUNT

MOTION: To close sewer bond checking account, the balance of funds to be put into the sewer fund account.

Moved by York, Seconded by Morey

Wartella Yes, Lucik Yes, Horton Yes, Morey Yes, York Yes. Carried

MOTION: To adjourn

Moved by Lucik, Seconded by Morey

All present voting in the affirmative. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Schierup, Clerk

Presented: 8/10/2009

Approved: 8/10/2009