

Village Of Dansville

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2022

1. **Call to Order:** At 6:01 P.M. in Dansville Village Hall, 1360 Mason St, Dansville MI 48819, by President Stolz. Pledge Recited.

2. **Roll call/ Present:** Barth, Ceccanese, Kirby, Schubert, Barrett, Rockwell, Stolz
Non-Voting Members: Parsons and Gailey

Guests: Kyle, of the DPW. Fritz of the DPW was invited but was unable to attend.

3. **Approval of the agenda:** Motion to approve agenda with adjustments by Ceccanese, 2nd by Barrett. Carried.

4. **Approval Of December Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes with adjustments made by Barth, 2nd by Rockwell. Carried.

5. **Payment of the Bills:** Motion to approve made by Ceccanese 2nd by Schubert. Roll call. Unanimously carried.

6. **Communications:**

a. **Treasurer report:**

i. Given and received.

ii. Motion to leave \$50,000 in each checking account with DART bank until all checks have cleared, by Kirby, 2nd by Ceccanese second. Roll call. Unanimously carried.

iii. Motion to close all bank accounts at DART Bank and Commercial Bank, by Ceccanese, 2nd by Barrett. Roll call. Unanimously carried.

iv. Motion to add the 2 four-year trustee positions, current are Gary Barth and Joy Barrett, to the MSUFCU bank account, by Ceccanese, 2nd Rockwell. Roll call. Unanimously carried.

b. **Clerk Report:** Given and received.

c. **President Report:**

i. Trash, we have been in contact and are working on a new contract and how moving forward will look. The new service does have an automated truck, we are still looking into if we can keep old trash cans, or if village residents will be provided a trash can that will work.

ii. Point of clarification, In the December meeting, regarding the sale of village property, Stolz stated "That there is not an ordinance that I am aware of for selling property". In 1974, it became possible for a Village to sell Village owned real estate at private sale "pursuant to an ordinance" now it says, "if authorized by an ordinance". Interest in the property was shared in June 2021, after a Village resident made an offer on DDA land. An official offer was made in July, discussed in length by the council, and council unanimously approved the acceptance of the offer. Then in September the council was read an Ordinance to sell the property, discussed, and again voted unanimously to sell the property. Followed then in December with the reading of the deed document, discussion, and unanimous approval. The council unanimously approved the private sale of the property.

7. **Citizens' Concerns:**

Citizen one: Expressed the following on the Trash; The company we were using was awful, the trash trucks are destroying our streets and are not working properly, they are leaking and causing damage. Citizen one also expressed the following on the Property sale: why did it sell so cheap? Land sells for \$10,000 an acre out here, and it got sold for pennies. It went so cheap due to someone being on the board. Trustee Barth commented, where are you finding \$10,000 an acre property on land locked land? Guest one also questioned why the village is now taking on the liability of taking on the responsibility of cleaning the sidewalks of snow. The liability is if someone slips and falls, the village would now be held accountable instead of the landowner. Stolz addressed the citizen and thanked them for their concern.

Citizen two: Is on a council for a Village similar in size, he is concerned on the sale of the property, and if there was an appraisal on the property. The title company should have been used, instead of a quit claim deed. Someone on the board should not be able to enrich themselves in a place of power. Asked if the municipality lawyer was used during the sale. He believes higher levels will become involved; it should have been sold at fair market price instead of the amount it did. Stolz addressed the citizen and thanked them for their concern.

8. **New Business**

- a. **DDA Meeting Procedures:** Changing the date of the DDA meeting to the Thursday before the Village meeting same time, same place but to be the Thursday before and not the 2nd Thursday of the month. Motion to approve the change in meeting policy and procedures for the DDA within the Village Council, made by Ceccaneese, 2nd by Barth, Carried. 0-No, 6-Yes
- b. **Meeting Minutes Discussion:** Making sure our meeting minutes are more inclusive and more detailed, but to also have meeting minutes typed during the meeting instead of being written and typed later, so it is fresh in mind. Minutes are not just a representation of the Clerk but of the whole board, so we want them to be as accurate as possible, it needs to accurately and completely reflect what happens in the meetings.
- c. **Department of Public works DPW:** Kyle did arrive at 6:20 P.M. to the meeting. Some conversation that has been had between Fritz, Kyle, and President Stolz: A motion was made to have the DPW to clear all sidewalks and to purchase a Torro machine. Stolz gave Kyle the option to go into a closed-door meeting, Kyle stated "It doesn't matter" it was decided it would remain a public setting. Fritz stated earlier the DPW would not be cleaning sidewalks and we would have to hire out in order to have them done. Stolz has tried to discuss this with the DPW staff but at this point they are being defiant. Stolz asked Kyle his feeling on the vote on the snow removal, Kyle stated he is willing to do it, but with this being his 5th year in the village and that when he was around Fritz and Jr. in the start it caused a lot of issues with citizens yards. Stolz stated that the DPW will be cleaning sidewalks, the property line ends at the sidewalk. With DPW staff currently not filling the roll of cleaning sidewalks President Stolz and Trustee Brad Rockwell, have stepped in maintained the sidewalks. Citizen one: commented for \$15,000 I would have done it by hand, that's a lot of money to spend on a quarter mile of sidewalk. Stolz made a motion to call a special meeting to discuss snow removal for the DPW with Kyle and Fritz, made by Rockwell, 2nd by Ceccaneese. Carried. 0 - no, 6 yes. Meeting will be at a 6 o'clock time frame, but a date is to be determined. Parsons did address the board letting them know she reached out to Fritz, and he is dealing with some family stuff which is why he could not be in attendance.

9. Old business:

- a. **Banking/ Financial Management software/ Budget**
 - i. Gailey handed out banking and budget packets for the council to look over and view so it can be discussed at the next meeting.
 - ii. Financial- the process to get BS&A has started.
 - iii. Gailey brought to the attention of Council that the auditors have continually voiced concern over finding out that the past president, trustee, clerk, and treasurer were not paying for the usage of water. They stated there will be a finding and the state will more than likely be contacting us. It is not known at this time exactly how the finding will read, but the current understanding is due to a potential abuse of power. The council did bring up back in March of 2021 that we would wait to see what the audit brought up after concerns came up with utility billing.
- a. **Ordinances:** To help with ease of ordinances and resolutions, the Village will now start with the year and then go with the ordinance number second, example 2021-01. These will then be digitalized so everyone can see them and have access to them, this will also create a more organized and easier way for the future. Every meeting the council will get a stack of ordinances to review the council will then review and revote, if necessary, on the ordinances, this way the village is able to start putting the ordinance into action. This will start in the next meeting.
- b. **10 - Year Plan:** Motion to create a public hearing to have public input on the 10- year plan, this public hearing will need to have 20 days' notice. Motion made by Ceccanese, 2nd By Schubert. Carried. Public hearing on February 1st at 6 o'clock at the village hall.
- c. **Computers - Village and DPW:** Gary reached out to his son who is under no benefit of doing this for the village, has given us two recommendations on computers that his company is using with the same program. The village is recommending laptops for both DPW staff members, the clerk, and the treasurer, and holding off on the president position currently. Motion to purchase 4 laptop computers, and software for up to \$6000, motion made by Ceccanese, 2nd by Schubert, Roll Call, unanimously carried.

10 Board member comments and concerns:

- d. **Brad Rockwell:** None
- e. **Jane Kirby:** Looking for the duties of the Council.
- f. **Karen Ceccanese:** Received her township taxes, drains - a cob drain was added, \$119, this is a mistake, and the township will be notifying people of this error. Stolz would like Parsons to send a letter to the township asking how the reimbursement will be done. 2nd concern: She does not appreciate the City Pulse calling her home trying to get information on the land sale. The land sale is done, no one else was interested in the land until someone else was, she believes this topic should be done with. Stolz asked

council how the City Pulse got everyone else's number. Stolz also agreed the sale comments should be done. It was in the minutes, it was public, it is done. There will be no more discussion on the sale of the land, comments can be made but discussion is done on the board. Stolz would like the Village to know, that if anyone in the village has any comments or concerns to use the emails on the website, call or could be done in person at the village meeting during the Citizen's Concerns portion of the meeting.

- g. **Kelsey Parsons:** None
 - h. **Mike Stolz:** None
 - i. **Kelen Gailey:** Just wanted to verify that Mike is still in communication with the Church about the parking issues that were brought up in the last meeting. Stolz verified he is still working on it, and he will be doing another follow up shortly.
 - j. **Joy Barrett:** None
 - k. **Sharron Schubert:** We lost a lovely lady in the Village, Carol Perrine, on January 7, 2022.
 - l. **Gary Barth:** None
11. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:16 - Motion made by Barth, 2nd by Ceccanese, carried.

Respectfully submitted
Kelsey Parsons - Village Clerk of Dansville/ DDA Clerk