

Village of Howard City
Council Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2021

President Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Hagstrom, VanWagner, Bassett, Smith, Williams, MacTavish, and Heckman. Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Public Comment: None.

After more discussion regarding a business permit, Council would like Mr. Falcon to do more research to find what would work best for the community and come back to next month's meeting to discuss further.

Motion by Smith seconded by VanWagner to defer the hydrant rent payment from the fire department for 2021-2022. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by Hagstrom to allocate \$30,000 of tax monies to the fire department for new equipment for 2021-2022. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Hagstrom to pay bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$2,883.99 for a total of \$85,536.55. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by VanWagner seconded by Hagstrom for the Village Manager to sign and ratify the three-year DPW union contract. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Council agreed to accept a water grant that Mr. Falcon applied for if it is granted.

Council agreed to have Mr. Falcon look into doing block-wide sidewalk repairs within the Village. Mr. Falcon will look into possible grants to help defer the cost.

Council agreed to go ahead with weed control treatment at the treatment plant for 2021-2022.

Mr. Falcon presented the 2021-2022 budget and touched on different projects and purchases that the Village will be looking to do throughout the year. Mr. Falcon asked for any suggestions or changes from Council so we can get the final numbers in by the next Council meeting.

Mr. Falcon presented Council with plans for a possible band shell and asked Council to provide any suggestions so the project can get started and hopefully finished by the end of the year.

Council agreed for Mr. Falcon to start advertising for a full-time DPW worker.

Public Comment: Ron Baker stated he has heard people comment on extending Washburn from Ensley to Orton Street. Mr. Falcon stated he will check on this option. Mr. Baker also stated the County Commissioners have changed their meeting format to a Committee of the Whole which take place on the second Monday of the month at 4 pm and their regular Commission meetings are held the fourth Monday of the month at 4 pm.

Trustee VanWanger inquired about the costs of tearing down the house on Locust. Mr. Falcon stated costs will be put on the taxes so the Village will recoup its money. Trustee VanWagner also inquired about the fire department billings for fire runs. Mr. Falcon stated we may need to amend the Ordinance to state we can charge fees.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Hagstrom to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)