

**Village of Elbera Michigan  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, February 16, 2012**

A public hearing and the regular meeting of the Elberta Village Council was held at the Community Building, Thursday, February 16, 2012.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting.

**Present:** R.Manville, Bower, Jenks, L.Manville, Holmes, Thorsen, Soper and Stapleton.

**Absent:** none

**Guests:** Laura Manville, Emily Votruba, Carolee Ness, Ken Bonney, Art Melendez, Connie Manke, Holly Odwyer, Jen Wilkens, Marcia Stobie and Vicki Mix.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Soper supported by Jenks to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2012, regular meeting with the correction of changing the day of the January meeting from Thursday to Monday. Yeas - 7.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by L. Manville supported by Holmes to approve the proposed agenda. Yeas - 7.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Emily Votruba reported on her discussion with Scott Gest concerning the removal of anything of historic significance from his property on the waterfront. She discussed the preservation of such articles. R.Manville asked who would determine if the articles are historic or not. Votruba said she wasn't sure but that the removal operation would start in March.

Marcia Stobie reported that the County Treasurer, Linda Wilson, was retiring in June. She also said there is a vacancy on the DHS board. Stobie also discussed the possibility of a joint effort by townships to create a Master Plan. The Council said that they were very pleased

with their MP which had been created by a MP committee in conjunction with Sarah Lucas of COG.

**Motion by** Holmes supported by L.Manville to leave the regular meeting and go into the advertised public hearing. Yeas - 7.

The public hearing is being held to hear public comment on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2012/13. Holmes said the audits for the Village have been good. He said that he was disappointed in people wanting to cut the benefits of the employees. Holmes also discussed the State's proposal of financial managers for distressed areas. He said petitioner's were in the process of getting signatures to place the use of financial managers on the November ballot for a vote of the people. R.Manville said the budget committee had worked hard to create the proposed budget. He said they had held two meetings to work out the budget. L.Manville thanked Melendez and Votruba for their patience at the budget meetings. R.Manville said the proposed budget is balanced. Jenks discussed requiring the employees to contribute 20% of their health care premium and that it should be effective immediately. Holmes disagreed. L.Manville agreed with Jenks.

Stobie said that currently the State asked that either the employees be under a hard cap or pay 20% of their premium. She asked if the Headly rollback effected us. Laura Manville said there hadn't been too much of a change.

Votruba said that she had been impressed with the two budget planning meetings that she had attended. She said that she didn't want to see health benefits cut.

R.Manville said the Village is working on some other things to help save money.

**Motion by** Holmes supported by Jenks to leave the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. Yeas - 7.

**Correspondence:** Correspondence was noted.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

L.Manville said the receipt report showed a total of \$21,857.28. Motion by Holmes supported by Soper to approve the accounting checks - \$17,869.20 (including \$75 in

Solstice and \$75 in P&R) and \$8,371.27 in payroll. Yeas - 7.

Department heads were heard from.

Ken Bonney reported on DPW activities. He said that Scott Gest has donated a building off from his waterfront property to the Village.

**Water/Sewer/BLUA:** Holmes reported on BLUA.

**P&R:** Melendez reported on the P&R meeting.

In his President's report R.Manville reported that he had attended the P&R meeting, Solstice committee meeting, Elberta Dunes Management meeting, two budget planning meetings, and Employee committee meeting and checked on work at the LSS. R.Manville also read a letter expounding on the accomplishments of the garage and office. He said both entities had experienced work increases. R.Manville said that there had been no raises for three years and the employees had voluntarily opted for a higher deductible on their health care. He said that it is necessary to have a budget in place by March 1, 2012.

**Fire & Safety:** Holmes said that there had been a Fire Board meeting. Laura Manville asked if the fire department had been given raises. Holmes said they had been given raises. Laura Manville said that in researching the fire and 1<sup>st</sup> responder's contracts she had found that some of the figures were wrong. The figures for the weighted SEV were not correct. After discussing the figures with Josh Mills and his correcting the error she was told this would save the Village approximately \$2500 to \$3000. Laura Manville also said that there would be no difference financially between having a 1<sup>st</sup> Responders contract and not having one. It is the law that all 911 calls generate the need for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. She explained that the Village would either pay through a higher fire contract or a separate 1<sup>st</sup> Responder's contract.

**Municipal Buildings:** Soper said that Thorsen was doing a great job with the work at the LSS. Laura Manville said that in the proposed budget that 22% percent of actual LSS revenues had been allocated for repairs and maintenance.

**AGENDA:**

1.D/A Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013. Motion by Holmes supported by Thorsen to approve the budget for fiscal year 2012/2013. Yeas - 6, Nays - 1 Jenks

2.D/A Meeting Dates, Location & Time for Fiscal Year 2012/2013. Stapleton pointed out the March date should be the 15<sup>th</sup> rather than the 16<sup>th</sup>. Motion by L.Manville supported by Holmes to

approve the proposed dates, time and location for the regular meetings of fiscal year 2012/2013. Yeas - 7

3.D/A Conservancy Management Plan. R.Manville reported on some of the proposed plans for the property - parking lot, lavatories, etc. Motion by Soper supported by Jenks for the Conservancy Management Plan to move forward. Yeas - 7.

Public Comment was heard.

Motion accepted to adjourn

Sharyn Bower, Clerk

Village of Elberta