

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 3, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Council held at 442 N. Grand Street was called to order by President Dan DeVries at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President DeVries.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President DeVries, Trustees Clark, Gunnett, Barnes, Dailey, and Carlin.

Absent: Tackett.

Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Faith Akert, Chief Bryan Campbell, Russell Lee Barnes, Mark McCain, Craig Sisk, Attorney Tom King, and Vergie Ammerman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Clark, to approve the agenda with the addition under Unfinished Business, item (a) as follows: Discussion regarding status of dangerous building located at 306 N. Grand Street. All aye.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Dailey, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Gunnett, to open the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m. for the purpose of hearing a request from Chem Link, Inc. for an Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate. All aye.

Attorney Tom King representing Chemlink, Inc. appeared before the Village Council to present the IFEC request, and to provide information to the Village Council as follows:

- He stated that Chemlink is requesting an Industrial Facility Exemption Certificate (IFEC) for \$440,672.13 for personal property, due to the expansion of their facility.
- He noted that the Village of Schoolcraft's IFEC Policy provides for a six year period with a provision to reapply at the end of the six year period.
- He requested a full 12 year exemption.

- He noted that personal property such as office furniture, computers and software are exempted per Village of Schoolcraft's IFEC Policy.
- He requested that those items not be exempted for consideration.
- He stated that six jobs will be retained and two jobs will be created consistent with Village of Schoolcraft's IFEC Policy.

Trustee Gunnett had the following question:

- He asked how many Village Residents are employed by Chem Link, Inc.?
- He stated that he would support the IFEC request of Chem Link, Inc., in the amount of \$415,495.11.
- He stated that the IFEC does directly affect the Village of Schoolcraft, as the Industrial Facility Tax (IFT) decreases tax revenue generated through the addition of personal property by 50%.

President Dan DeVries has the following comments:

- He stated that 2023 a long way off in the future, and that the Village is currently experiencing declining taxes and revenue sharing.
- He stated that he would like to minimize the reapplication process in six years, if possible.

Village Manager Cheri Lutz had the following comments:

- She stated that the Village's IFEC Policy was drafted consistent with other municipalities.
- She stated that the Village Council has determined that computers, software, tables, chairs and office equipment are considered normal operational costs, and do not create jobs.
- She stated that the IFEC agreement addresses areas of concern such as job creation and retention and includes a provision for recapture of taxes in the event the business relocates or closes.

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Clark, to close the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. All aye.

Motion by Gunnett, seconded by Clark, to adopt Resolution 2011-01. A Resolution Approving the Application of Chem Link for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate in the Village of Schoolcraft Industrial District in the amount of \$415,495.11, for a period of six years. All aye.

Resolution Adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) The letter from Mrs. Kathy Wayman regarding her progress on the demolition of the Dangerous Building located at 306 N. Grand Street was discussed.

President DeVries read aloud the letter from Mrs. Wayman received by fax on December 31, 2010, and requested comments from the Village Council.

President DeVries had the following comments:

- He stated that Mrs. Wayman has not shown a good faith effort to take the building down despite the Council's effort to work with her to provide additional time.
- He stated that she has had six months to demolish or renovate the building.
- He stated that she has not contacted the Village Manager regarding her progress as requested by the Village Council.

Trustee Gunnett had the following comments:

- He stated that he is disappointed with the lack of cooperation from Mrs. Wayman.
- He stated there are number of demolition companies who can do the work.

Trustee Barnes stated that the Village Council needs to move forward to demolition.

Trustee Dailey had the following comments:

- He stated that at the "Show Cause" Hearing, Mrs. Wayman did not refute the fact the building is dangerous.
- He stated that the Dangerous Hearing Officer determined that the building was dangerous, but not that it would collapse as stated in Mrs. Wayman's letter received by fax on December 31, 2010.

Village Manager Cheri Lutz stated that required permits have not been returned back to Associated Government Services.

Motion by Trustee Dailey, seconded by Gunnett, to move forward with the demolition process by authorizing the Village Manager to contact the Village Attorney to determine proper process and procedure, and to solicit bids for demolition. All aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding renewal of the Annual Hazardous Waste Contract was discussed.

Motion by Clark, seconded by Carlin, to approve the 2011 Hazardous Waste Contract in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. All aye.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION:

President DeVries had the following comment:

- He stated that the Downtown Revitalization Committee will be meeting on Monday, January 24, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.
- He stated that he would like to consider improvements to the Community Center in the budget for 2011/2012.

Trustee Clark had the following comment:

- She stated that the windows need to be replaced at the Community Center.

Trustee Gunnett had the following comment:

- He stated that the U.S. 131 Sanitary Sewer Project report has not yet been completed, and that the project is cost prohibitive for the Village of Schoolcraft.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Gunnett, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. All aye.

Faith C. Akert, Village Clerk

Daniel P. DeVries, President