

VILLAGE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 4, 2023

The Lincoln Village Council met on Wednesday January 4th at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall. Those present included President Sheila Phillips, Treasurer Marsha Mahalak, Clerk Linda Somers and Council Members Jason Durham, Bonny Gauthier, Dorene Schick and Brett Wambold. Council Member Debbie Lucas was absent due to illness. A motion was made by Schick to have Brent Werth join the Village Council, Wambold offered support. Brent was sworn in by Marsha Mahalak. Welcome Brent. Zoning Administrator Marsha Mahalak gave a brief overview of concerns with the proposed amendments to verbiage in an ordinance. Planning Commission Chairman Marilyn Wissmiller stated that the planning commission would offer the option to adopt the change in verbiage. It is now in the Village Council's hands to decide. President Phillips stated that she believes it would be in our best interest to hold a second Public Hearing. This would affect all B1 areas in the district. A motion was made by Wambold with support from Durham to table this issue and allow for us to speak with legal counsel and hold another hearing. Motion carried. Schick stated that she had been at the hearing last week and would feel more comfortable by holding another public hearing. A public hearing will be held on January 30, at 6 p.m. The minutes of the December meeting were approved on a motion from Durham with support from Wambold. The Treasurer's report was approved subject to audit on a motion from Schick with support from Gauthier. The bills were approved as presented for payment on a motion from Durham with support from Wambold.

In Public Comment time Richard Bray thanked the board for offering property to the Veterans Association and said he is looking forward to having the group in the community. Teri Goldstrom asked about the issues of firefighters, first responders and police if the Community Hub is built here. Phil Potter addressed the board about his concerns about a research study that was done regarding the need for a new community center and housing. He questioned why the Village Council would even consider moving forward with changing verbiage when this study clearly stated that this is not needed for this area. President Phillips stated that there are three things that would affect any changes including the health, safety and wellbeing of the citizens. Don Sharboneau stated that changing two words will impact everyone, not just the Village of Lincoln residents. He said he lives here because he likes the rural lifestyle and feels that people might shy away from moving here if we bring in this project. Jessica Dobbs had a suggestion for

the Public Hearing that we should talk with the County Sheriff about his thoughts regarding how this would impact the county. Fire Chief Cordes stated that currently we are struggling to keep ambulance staff. He stated that his department has several people certified as First Responders. Natalie Goldstrom asked about an uptick in residents would potentially affect Iosco and Alpena strained with our firefighter and first responders. Marcie Cowles stated that she hasn't seen too many younger people moving back to this community and she is concerned about how we are going to take care of an aging population. We are trying to find a new attorney for the Village. Dan White and Matt Wojda appeared before the board to speak about their services. Mr. White has been working with municipalities for a long time. Mr. Wojda works with many municipalities. They would be available at an hourly rate of \$150 per hour. A motion was made by Gauthier with support from Wambold to hire White & Wojda as our attorneys of record. Ken Lind of Lind Insurance gave a presentation. He said Zoning is an issue that is not covered by normal insurance. He stated that we might want to consider adding insurance to cover cyber insurance, more insurance for the zoning commission and more coverage on the fire trucks. A motion was made by Schick with support from Gauthier to purchase additional insurance for zoning and cyber coverage. Carried. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Schick with support from Wambold to adopt the Tax Abatement Ordinance. A Roll call vote was taken: Durham Gauthier, Schick, Wambold, Werth all Ayes. No Nays. Absent, Lucas. Motion carried. The Ordinance is available for viewing in its entirety on the Village Website at lincolnmi.com. The abbreviated form of the Ordinance follows:

TAX ABATEMENT ORDINANCE

For Commercial and Industrial Facilities

Ordinance 23-1

The Village of Lincoln has set forth the following goals and objectives:

1. To expand the tax base of the Village of Lincoln
2. To encourage development which will increase the economic vitality of the business districts of the Village
3. To create and retain employment from existing facilities that might otherwise leave the Village
4. To assist in the rehabilitation of older facilities and/or expansions of existing businesses

5. To enhance the general attractiveness of the Community Abatement terms will be granted to successful applicants based on the cumulative total of the following:

1. One year of abatement for every \$50,000 in total investment, plus
2. One-year abatement for every \$20,000 in façade development, plus
3. One year of abatement for every (new) full-time equivalent job created, plus
4. One year of at least 25% of total materials and/or labor expense is provided by businesses located within the Village limits.
5. No abatement periods can exceed those allowed in the Act through which abatement is granted.

Nothing within this ordinance shall imply or suggest that the Village of Lincoln Council is under any obligation to provide tax abatements to any applicant, regardless of the extent to which an applicant is able to meet provisions contained herein. Certificates for abatement under all the Acts referenced in this policy are granted by the State Tax Commission, which may deny such certificates even if approved by the Village Council.

Billy Cordes gave the fire department report. They secured a grant that will cover the purchase of 15 pagers total. He suggested giving \$100 of the fire chief pay and giving it to Mike Serafin for him taking care of the paperwork for the department. Motion from Durham with support from Wambold to allow Mike Serafin to be paid for taking care of the paperwork. Carried. A motion was made by Durham with support from Gauthier to send a bill to the person who has been leaving trash at the park on Barlow Road. Carried. Gary Graves gave the maintenance report. The town clock has been painted by Alcona Motors and is ready to be reinstalled.

A motion was made by Gauthier with support from Durham to appoint Brent Werth as the Sewer Administrator. Carried. Durham stated that he has talked with someone regarding the electric car charging station. He will be talking with Consumers Energy to see what the cost would be. A motion was made by Gauthier with support from Durham. Carried.

Linda K. Somers

Village Clerk

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