

City of Stanton  
Regular Meeting  
December 22, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Tissue-Daws.

Commissioners present: Yoder, Corwin, Burris, Basom, Johnson and Petersen.  
Absent: None.

A motion was made by Petersen and supported by Johnson to approve the agenda with the correction that the Asset test for the BOR can be deleted. 6 Yes. 0 No. Motion carried.

Ryan White informed the Commission that he was transferring to a church in Ludington and would not be able to say the prayer before the meeting.

A motion was made by Petersen and supported by Yoder to approve the minutes with the correction when summarizing the City Manager's report the word house should be "houses" and the last line should read "RFP for solid waste haulers were sent out. 6 Yes. 0 No. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Corwin and supported by Burris to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$13,947.81. 6 Yes. 0 No. Motion carried.

DPW Report is attached.

City Manager's report is attached.

Commission discussed cost of proposed Veterans Park and possible funding.

Public Comments: Ray Holloway commented that he can't wait to start raising money.

A motion was made by Burris and supported by Petersen to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Next meeting will be held on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Community room at City Hall. Public Welcome.

Monica-Tissue Daws, Mayor  
Janet Davis, City Clerk

**City Manager's Report**  
**Stanton City Commission Meeting**  
**12/22/15**

To the Commission and Citizens of Stanton,

We are making considerable progress on numerous projects and I am pleased to offer some updates:

1. The Parks and Recreation Committee has made considerable progress towards our 5 Year Parks and Recreation Plan which must be filed with MDEQ by March 1. A draft of the plan is being finalized, and we have mailed out or distributed over 800 surveys for public input concerning our parks. Once this data can be collected and analyzed we will make any necessary changes to the plan, and it will need to be available to the public for a month for review and comment.
2. We have already had two separate inquiries into two of the three lots remaining from the blighted home demolition. It is my hope that we can market these lots for new housing investment or to adjacent properties to make sure they are properly taken care of. This should also let us recoup some of our investment. It is my hope we can continue this strategy in combination with other opportunities to improve our housing stock within the City Limits.
3. You have in your packet our firm cost estimates for each phase of the Veteran's Memorial Park installation, as well as a phasing strategy for our major grant requests designed to maximize one grant against another as match funds. We will need to continue to solicit large donations as well as private capital development. I am anticipating some high-end deliverables in early January and am currently working on grant applications with private foundations.
4. ROWE has begun the application process for our Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application, and we will be requesting 296,000 dollars, with a 25% local match. We will also be applying for a \$400,000 MDOT TAP fund grant, and the goal is to utilize our award from DNR as matching funds.
5. Concerning the park project, we have received an endorsement letter from the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail Commission which grants us tentative permission to connect to the bike trail with our own path network through the park. This is contingent on working with them to ensure a safe design of entry onto the trail, so we minimize the possibility of accidents or vandalism.
6. We have had considerable interest from all firms concerning our single hauler bidding process for solid waste removal in the City. I anticipate that we will have a competitive process, and should be able to mitigate the rate increases faced by our residents.

7. The meter change out and radio installation project is ongoing, and Jamie has been the main point of contact for Geoff Garmin, our MI Meter rep. I anticipate we will see considerable progress on this project throughout the winter and I am fascinated to see what sort of savings and man hours we will experience from the project.
8. I am very much enjoying my experience with Leadership Montcalm, and I again would like to thank the Commission for splitting the costs to put me through the program. I will be doing a final project focused on collaboration and regionalization in Montcalm County, with a particular focus on potential financial savings and market competitive edge in attracting new economic development investments.
9. I think the first Stanton City Christmas Party went very well. My wife and I were very pleased to be able to share a meal with all of you, and we hope you have a very Happy Holiday with friends and family!

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake Eckholm", written in a cursive style.

Jake Eckholm, City Manager

Thursday, December 17, 2015 at 2:51:05 PM Eastern Standard Time

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**Subject:** FW: D.P.W. report 12/17/15  
**Date:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 at 12:02:45 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Janet Davis  
**To:** cityofstantonoffice@gmail.com

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**From:** Jeff Main [mailto:stantondpw@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 9:15 AM  
**To:** jdavis@casair.net  
**Subject:** D.P.W. report 12/17/15

-The D.P.W. has continued to replace worn and defaced street signs as we encounter them.  
-We patched a few pot holes.  
- We had 20 yards of gravel delivered so that we can restore any possible water/sewer repair sites that we may encounter over the winter months.  
-We have been grading some of our streets that are composed of gravel or asphalt millings.  
-We had 1 septic tank pumped and cleaned out, and had to excavate the lateral to install a clean-out from the tank to the sewer main in order to clean the plugged line.  
-The cities west lift (sewer pumping station) had an electronic component failure that had to be addressed by an outside source. The company Grantech, who also installed the cities new main lift (sewer pumping station) also highly recommended replacing 2 check valves at the west lift station that may total more than \$1000.00 . Grantech will be submitting an estimate.  
-Also we have received the first order of 420 water meters, and are working with Michigan Meter to set new installations in motion.

James Blum  
Director  
Department of Public Works

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