

VILLAGE OF HOLLY

VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

February 23, 2016

The regular meeting of the Village of Holly Council Meeting was called to order by President Bladzick at 7:00 P.M. in the Karl Richter Center Board of Education Room located at 920 E. Baird Street, Holly, Michigan.

Councilmembers Present

Ryan Bladzick
Bob Allsop
Dave Cruickshank
Suzanne L. Heiple
Robert Kleven
Chris Rankin

Staff Present

Jerry L. Walker
Cathrene A. Behrens
Brian Klaassen
Steve McGee
Andrew Potter
Mike Story

Others Present

See attached

Excused Absent

Debra Musgrave

President Bladzick called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Clerk/Treasurer Behrens called the roll.

CM 2016-019 Motion by Rankin, second by Heiple to excuse Council Member Musgrave due to family illness.

Motion carried by voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Village President Bladzick stated that he would recommend changing the order of the Public Hearing to place the Holly Mill Pond Special Assessment Public Hearing first on the agenda.

Council Member Kleven stated he would like to move New Business Item #2, consideration of the approval of the Council minutes from the meeting of February 9, 2016.

CM 2016-020 Motion by Rankin, second by Cruickshank to approve the consent agenda as amended.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Agenda Approval
- ~~2. Consideration of the Approval of the Council Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2016.~~
3. Consideration of the Approval of the

Charter & Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2016.

- 4. Consideration of the Approval of Warrant 2016-04 in the amount of \$98,874.74

PUBLIC HEARING – HOLLY MILL POND SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

CM 2016-021 Motion by Rankin, second by Heiple to open the Public Hearing on the Holly Mill Pond Special Assessment District.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

Public Hearing opened at 7:02 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Clark, 314 Hadley, stated that every year he likes to tell the Council that the Holly Mill Pond is the essence of the community. When the Shiawassee was dammed up it caused the railroads to come through and allowed this community to grow. It is something they need to cherish and care for. In 1989 the council commissioned a lake study which included the Mill Pond. It was recommended that something be done for weed control on the pond. The council initially paid for it and it was initially intended to be a demonstration. After a couple of years the weed treatment stopped and they had a mass of dead weeds floating on the pond that sucked the oxygen out of the water and there was a massive fish kill which causing thousands of seagulls to come to town and was a health hazard. He and a couple of other people that live on the

Mill Pond passed a petition suggesting setting a special assessment district and partnering with the Village to eliminate the weeds. This was started and seemed to work reasonably well. In a study done in the late 1980's the deepest hole in the Mill Pond is only eleven feet. If you have a shallow body of water you can't just take care of the weeds and leave it. He is happy to maintain the partnership with the Village; the Village does control everything because the Village owns the damn and the embankments. They would like to continue in partnership with the Village, the winter drawdowns do help to control the weeds. He would like to recommend that this coming year the brush on the embankments be cut down because the roots will infiltrate the pond. He thinks the pond is looking good and continues to be an asset to the community.

CM 2016-022 Motion by Heiple, second by Rankin to close the Mill Pond Public Hearing.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

Public Hearing closed at 7:09 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING – Main Street Oakland County Imagine Midtown Holly Design Charrette Report

CM 2016-023 Motion by Heiple, second by Rankin to open the Public Hearing on the Imagine Midtown Design Charrette Report.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

Public Hearing opened at 7:10 PM.

Nancy Rebar, 405 S. Saginaw Street, stated she has had opportunity to see a presentation regarding this plan. She thinks it is a quality plan and displays a lot of vision. She is fully in support of the plan. If we are able as a community to enact half of what this plan suggests we will be far and above where we are now and she just came tonight to convey her support.

John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw, passed out a copy of page 19 from the Design Charrette Report (see attached). He stated that the road diet is the element of the plan that is just unacceptable. If you accept the plan you are endorsing this bike lane deal and that has to be excluded from any kind of approval. It can't be done. He stated that this thing is just dangerous to have kids start to go down N. Saginaw and it's only being used for a few months of the year. These bicycles on this artery; there is going to be somebody hit, there are going to be deaths. When you look at the back sheet there is actual data that says 11% of the people want two lanes of traffic on that street. If you approve this without taking this road diet; it is just things to confuse people; we are going to have a wonderful plan with this terrible situation that is going to be created on a main street. Sharrows are bicycle lanes where they share the street so 11% of the people wanted that, 90% didn't. 44% wanted they wanted dedicated bike lanes; what is a dedicated bike lane? That isn't even the majority. In spite of all of this data, if you approve this you are approving the bike lanes. If you look at the other sides of the percentages, 90% said they didn't want two lanes of traffic, 89% said they didn't want bicycles sharing the roads and 56% said they didn't want dedicated bike lanes on their

street. No one wants it; it's buried in here so they are going to slide it through, it is a wonderful thing; the whole town is going to be revolutionized and transformed into Troy but they have this bomb in here. That is the part not supported by the facts. He stated there are 12,000 cars going down the street per day but that was done in March and no one is on the road in March. The summer estimate is 14,000 and they have a range in there which says you should not change four lanes to two if you are within a range. There are some other factors to consider which make this unacceptable. There are 70 cuts that means driveways, over 150 on both sides of the road. He stated this just isn't going to work, its going to be a total nightmare for a whole year when bicycles will only be out there for three months. It is just irresponsible to do this. The road diet has to be taken out of this and you can do whatever else you want with the rest of it. He is an engineer so he looks through here and analyzes this stuff and the way they disguised it he doesn't consider ethical, it is unacceptable and it is a grave, grave problem.

Jennifer Warner, 16267 Worden, Holly, stated she has a number of questions and she will read through them and fire them off allowing everyone to think about them and at some point someone can answer them. She is opposed to the road diet and thinks it is irresponsible and a big safety hazard to take it down to two lanes. She knows that part of the plan is to have a left turn lane however that poses other problems that she will address. She doesn't think that it is a safe and practical idea and our sidewalks are not as busy as a Rochester, Petosky or any other big town. Currently you can drive down the street and you can see there is not an overcrowding of

walkers or bicyclists so why spend money on a bike lane on both sides of the road. What happens to the bike rider if they fall off their bike into the traffic lane? Someone gets hurt; what happens to the driver, they are going to feel awful as well as deal with the legal ramifications. Drivers are constantly distracted by their phones and such so will they even see a bike before it becomes too late. Will children and teens be expected to ride in the road bicycle lane since the road will be reduced to one lane in each direction? What will happen when the traffic backs up? As far as our children riding their bikes downtown, she is never going to allow her kids to ride in the bike lane. She really thinks that it is not a sensible plan. What will happen when a business truck has to park? There is a truck parked in front of the furniture store. When they get deliveries it blocks one lane of traffic so what is going to be done with the traffic when that happens. The plan shows a turn lane in the center of the road but will that one lane accommodate all of the traffic turning? There are supposed to be trees put in the middle of the road in the median and she doesn't think that is practical. She does not believe that it is going to have a calming effect, she thinks that it will just be one more obstacle.

President Bladzick stated there were several questions and asked if any council members would like to address them.

Council Member Rankin stated that the one he heard which sticks out in his mind regarding the delivery truck and advised with a five or six foot bike lane it is not going to impede traffic any more than it already does with a four lane road. If you truck is 8' wide and the bike lane is 6' wide you will still have room to

get around it.

Council Member Allsop stated that he was stopped out in front of Winglemire's and there was a truck in the middle of the road and you couldn't get around it. The truck was unloading and he was thinking the same thing she was thinking, we'll just have to wait and see.

Council Member Kleven stated that safety is job number one in the Village and this is atrocious with eight year olds going down the road and teenagers messaging.

Council Member Cruickshank stated that he and his two young children ride their bikes religiously every Wednesday to the car show Downtown. Whether the bike lane exists or not, he and his children will continue to ride their bikes on the sidewalk. The businesses down there are saying that traffic is going so fast in this area they are limited as to what they can do in front of their business. Some businesses are fine with the way things are but in order to get to all of the other steps in the charrette, the road diet has to happen. We have to condense the traffic, slow it down and lower the density in that section. The safety of the kids, of course, no reasonable parent is going to allow their child to ride in that bike lane. That is where he is coming from. The bike lanes are for adults to connect to the bikes lanes coming from Fenton and Linden. There is not going to be anyone forcing your children into the bike lanes so he hopes this calms some fears.

Jim Clark, 314 Hadley Street, stated about 40 years ago the hot button issue in the community was widening Saginaw and that tore the community in half. At the time, the

zoning was changed on the residential houses which made it more difficult for people to get mortgages and sell their homes and basically not much in the way of good things has happened in 40 years. He applauds this study and there are a lot things that can be done which can benefit the community. He walks this community virtually every day, 12 months per year, and tomorrow he will be walking from the Mill Pond out to McDonalds and back. He would welcome a five foot buffer on each side because if it is wet or slushy he gets splashed by vehicles on the sidewalk and that would be a tremendous benefit. He also finds it interesting that the cheapest single thing in this study, the only thing that is readily reversible is the only concern people have. If we paint the lanes differently tomorrow, in six months if we know it is not working, we could go back to the original layout. He thinks this study is a solid one and commends the council for getting it done through the County and he would like to see it implemented and some of the plans and dreams that people had four decades ago for Saginaw Street, he would like to live long enough to see them achieved.

President Bladzick stated that this report is not something that is accepted enmass. The report is a long series of recommendations on various items, for instance, recommended changes for Ganshaw Park will be considered by our Parks Commission and if there is need and funding it could be implemented.

Dale McWhorter, 201 Seminole, stated that he wanted to thank John Lauve for his comments and that he had several great points. He is raising an autistic grandson and no one sees things the way they do. He thinks this is wonderful attempt, he can picture the trees

and everything. The concerns he has start with him when he brought up his bus stop. When the bus stops they have to run across four lanes of traffic and this plan would narrow it down to one lane making it not as dangerous for the kids. He then asked how the traffic from Milford Road would get through without affecting business through town. How do we route that without discouraging them. He didn't see on the report the analogy on the report providing the safest routes for traffic control. He loves seeing bikes out there and they have to go somewhere so they give them the road. The two lanes on each side, he can't picture how a bicycle lane on each side. As someone mentioned we had the truck sitting in the road, can you imagine one lane, well we'll just go around. Do you go around in the bicycle lane? He does not know if it is practical downtown and is not sure how it will affect the businesses.

Patrick Feeney, 210 Franklin, stated that he does a lot of walking and it is a little hazardous at Saginaw and Maple. His issue is the idea of the road diet would have more sustainability in his opinion if you had plans knowing that we have a certain amount of business and know what is going to be there. He thinks we should see people in the northern section of the Village prior to doing this and then you offer this. He stated that when you walk along the sidewalk going north to Grange Hall Road and you walk two abreast, it is risky business. He can point to Clawson, Michigan and see how they narrowed the street down and now people avoid the downtown. People are wandering around downtown and he worked down there until several months ago and he altered his route due to being backed up in traffic. He is

not saying the future that there might not be something in the northern part but right now he thinks we should be encouraging and developing the things that we have and then consider changing the road when you have an interest in that end of town.

President Bladzick stated that Mr. Feeney's last point was to do things and encourage change with what we have and asked what his recommendations would be to do this.

Mr. Feeney thought that the Village might draw up a plan for a special district like the Downtown Development District and focus on that section. Here is our Master Plan, do we want business there, do we want residential. Do that plan and connect it with some of the aspects you have in the existing plan. He realizes that it is private property but some of the private properties might be interested in having a partnership by giving them the connection. You might find they are open to a lot of suggestions. Right now, there are some building up there but I don't see any plans for them but that is where the Village needs to contact and see what the story is. There are some sections of Saginaw's sidewalks that are in pretty bad shape and when you walk up parts of Saginaw you are pretty darn close to the road. The ultimate thing is right now there is a plan with something that is going to nothing at this point. If you have businesses who are interested that is different.

Council Member Heiple stated that the Village does have a Master Plan which is available on the website or at Village offices for review.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington, stated he would like administration to stop making

misleading remarks about how popular the road diet is and their own data shows that only 11% of the people want it. He wishes that the commissioners would study the report, which when it was presented to the ZBA the motion was to accept the report, it didn't say that we agreed with everything that was in the report and all of the statements that were made. The report is a good report, he thinks the Village, the administration and the Council should read and understand the report because the majority of the people do not want this road diet, what they want is a more beautiful area in that location, over 50% of the people on page 19 said they wanted more attractiveness, not a road diet.

Council Member Cruickshank asked the Village Manager if he had traveled to the businesses along N. Saginaw regarding the road diet.

Manager Walker advised they did with several businesses. He stated that Northern Oak Brewery is one of the businesses looking towards the idea of expanding to a patio out front which is not possible with the road as it is currently configured. The other ones they spoke to saw some pros to it and expressed concerns about what would happen with the traffic. Bike lanes are definitely a part of the plan because that part of the road diet is what triggers the other things to happen. If you go along N. Saginaw now you will only see three pedestrian crosswalks, does that mean people don't cross; no, they do cross and it is 44' across? Now you have people crossing 44' where traffic is going faster. There was someone riding a bicycle down N. Saginaw today on the roadway going in the wrong direction, going northbound in a southbound lane. Is it a mixed review, there are legitimate

questions on both sides with lots of merits to doing the project. Are there some questions that aren't going to be realized until you actually do it but the Village has to budget approximately \$8,800 to stripe the roadway, we would not be removing any curbs or doing any construction, and the same amount to reverse it. This report was compiled by Oakland County Main Street, they were asked to come in and do this for us, and they compile the facts as they are represented by individuals who have identified themselves as Holly residents.

Galon Christian, 140 Bevins, stated he and his wife own the Carquest and he is personally terrified of this idea. He doesn't have a degree in traffic flow but by the eyeball test he sees what happens every day when the buses come out and the traffic flow. He understands making it pretty and more inviting downtown but what he doesn't want to see is people diverting in vehicles. He doesn't see how it isn't going to be bumper to bumper for several hours a day. He has also talked with a lot of people that come into the store and he doesn't see where the driving force is behind this in the public. He knows that Mr. Potter is very excited about this but for him personally talking to people in the Village, they wonder why this is being done. A lot of them know how hard they fought to get four lanes on Saginaw in the first place. How many times per day do you see emergency vehicles going up and down the road and where are you going to go when they come. If you are going over in the bike lane, why call it a bike lane, just keep it the way it is. He thanked the Council for their time.

Jim O'Brien, 205 First Street, stated that his biggest problem is the congestion that he

thinks is going to result. There are numerous times he is pulling off of North Street or Oakland or Maple trying to get in and out and there is a lot of traffic along those blocks. There is going to be even more traffic with people trying to divert around all of the congestion on the main drag if this takes place. He can only imagine how difficult it is going to be to pull out onto Saginaw if there is only one lane in each direction. It is going to be a nightmare going forward, just one solid stream of traffic coming from both ways. He has been to Clarkston and been to Milford and if he doesn't have something that he is doing right downtown he will circumvent around the downtown to avoid the traffic. He knows the shortcuts around town, he is not going to sit there on the main street and go through all that traffic and many people do the same thing. He agrees there are limited crosswalks available but stated it is easier to walk across the street with four lanes of traffic than with two because of gaps and those gaps will not be there with only two.

Jim Manning, 210 Grant Street, stated that he and pedestrians don't jive together; he is an avid biker and right now the curbs are so bad in the dark if he hits one he will be in the lane anyways. You have people coming up in town to hit the Brewery, you need to fix the sidewalk. He would love to see an Eastern Market or something brought in so we can get our produce locally. The Midtown is ugly, it needs to get fixed and has been that way since he's been here, ten years. When you have four lanes of traffic with one center lane the cars are going to go around them anyway. Birmingham just did this, he is not pro or con on this but if we get the businesses in here to support the tax base so it doesn't rest on our backs, he would like to see that happen. We

don't want to pay any more taxes to see this happen.

Sandra Kleven, 1011 Hubble Drive, stated that she is against the road diet, she is one of the 89% that said no. One of her concerns are emergency vehicles, not just Holly but NOCFA as well. It's hard enough right now, we just raised the speed limit, now we are going to lower it again. She thinks this is foolish and dangerous and hopes that they don't do it.

Melissa Alexander, 308 N. Saginaw Street, stated that lives on Saginaw and she watches the traffic and leaves her home every day and there are some days it takes her up to 15 minutes to get out of her house during heavy traffic. She also has concern about the emergency vehicles and doesn't see where narrowing the road down creating more congestion is a good thing. She has small kids and they generally stay on the sidewalk so she doesn't see a big need for the road diet.

Jim Forton, 806 N. Saginaw, Northern Oaks Brewery, stated they have been mentioned a number of time tonight and wanted to state they they are in favor of the road diet plan and they would like to add an outdoor patio to their business. If he can do that it is going to bring more business to his brewery. If he brings more business to the brewery, he will hire more people. He has 23 employees right now and all but two of them are Holly residents. Before he opened he took 50 applications from people who wanted to work. Forty-eight of those people were Holly residents. If I can do this, the money stays in Holly, some of these people will have supervisory roles in his business which will help them later on in their career. He speaks

for his partner Ed and his wife Denise they are in favor of the plan. There are other advantages as well, tonight was the first time he saw Winglemire's delivery truck blocking the road. It occurs to him that the road width is going to be the same with bike paths and the truck is the same width, it is going to be in the same spot, he doesn't see how that is an issue if there is a bike path. Emergency vehicles, he hears them go by the brewery a couple of times a day and it's the same thing, the road is the same width, if the bicycles pull to the side of the road and the cars pull to the side of the road, they continue in the manner they are doing now.

Lisa Clark, 602 S. Broad Street, stated that she would like to point out when Oakland County Main Street came in and did this study it's not like these people don't know what they are talking about. It has had many plans for us that have been on the DDA. She thinks Holly has grown and prospered because it is a Main Street community. She doesn't think that the Main Street people would have suggested this if they thought we would have blood in the streets and thinks that the Village should try it. She stated that if it doesn't work, then it is something that can be easily changed back. She asked what you would lose by trying, it might be a marvelous start to a good plan to take care of the Midtown problem that is really not beautiful right now. She just can't why we can't try it.

President Bladzick stated that the council has had the opportunity to deliberate and they will again but there are two approaches to this entire plan. The first is are the recommendations proposed because there is a problem or there is something that we are trying to accomplish. The other theory is that

if you build it, they will come. He is not sure if there is an answer for that but one of the things brought up in the presentations is that a lot of the businesses along Midtown were built and developed under a master plan and a type of zoning that was carved with parking out in front. A lot of the businesses are like that and the question again is with this plan is that do people want to walk and how do you meet the demands of both. That is the question and there is no answer to that. This isn't just change for the sake of change.

Jesse Torres, 708 Marion Drive, stated he grew up on N. Saginaw Street across from Dairy Queen and has a couple of questions. He asked if the road was going to be the same width besides the five foot bike lanes. As for kids riding their bikes up N. Saginaw Street he knows that his mom would have never allowed him to ride in the roadway and he thinks that a buffer between the sidewalk and the roadway would be a good think. He stated that he currently lives on Bevins Lake and a boardwalk project is a proposal and he would like to make sure there are adequate garbage receptacles and recycling and clean-up crews because Bevins Lake is a very clean lake. He also works in downtown Fenton and they went through this process this past summer and they did see a slight decrease in sales and business but overall he thinks it is going to make up for it in the next summer and times to come. The area looks a lot nicer, the taxpayers of Fenton only had to fork over 10% of it and that is another concern for him is how much the taxpayers are going to have to pay for this. He just wants to make sure that it is being placed in the right place because there are other places that need some work down by McDonald's and Mill Pointe.

Marlo Davidson, 434 Sherwood Ct. stated that as she is listening to people talk about the street and making it look nice but what is ugly is the facades, it's the personal businesses. Has there been a study to determine that if the Village does this to the street will the businesses change or do something to make themselves look better. She looks at the businesses, she doesn't look at the street. You are talking about bicycles and cars and we have a lot of walkers in the community and she would like to know what we are going to do about the sidewalks, you can only fit a person and a half on them now and she would like to see wider sidewalks.

Ryan Shiel, 320 LeGrande Street, stated that he rides a tricycle in town bi-weekly to get groceries at Holly Foods, go to lunch at Tom's, whatever. To put a bike lane on Saginaw, he wouldn't really feel comfortable riding there with the cars going so fast. It even scares him to ride through the midtown area being so close to the road now. When he is approached by another bicycle or a person walking on the sidewalk, he moves over to the side or they do to go around. His is neutral as to how he feels about the bike lane but he would like to see Joseph Pontiac cleaned up, the old car wash torn down and the area in general cleaned up.

Dick Rossell, 512 E. Maple Street stated that there is a lot of concern about this issue and there are a couple of comments he wants to address. There are a lot of people concerned about being hurt with this plan. These bike lanes are not going to start at the intersections. The bike lanes are going to start past Winglemires furniture store. If there is a truck parked there, it may or may not mean anything. The other thing is we have some

new business people coming to town and they currently own a business in Ferndale on 9 Mile Road and Ferndale did this a couple of years ago and they love it. Nine Mile is a busy street and they have bike lanes going down the middle of the road. Someone mentioned that we need to clean up the businesses and he would like to state that the last four years We have gone from a 50% occupancy rate downtown to a 100% occupancy rate. We need to move business and put it anywhere we can get it. If you look at store fronts they are better than they were years ago and he can't help but think the same thing will happen here.

Doug Henderson, 228 Airport, stated he and his family have lived on Airport for 35 years and they walk and ride bikes. They have grandkids in the area and of course, they walk. There are some things that bother us and it is a common theme that the sidewalks are too close to the roads. He thinks that the design charrette is done very well but there are bits and pieces that we could go after. The blight in the area is something that we need to go after aggressively and it is been many years that we watched it grow. It really needs to happen and happen soon. He thinks that if we take this area we need to re-develop the sidewalks, eliminate the blight and get some new business in there.

Chuck Stoner, 121 S. Saginaw, stated he grew up in Holly, left for a few years and came back, been through a lot of the growth. His father had a business on Saginaw Street. The real concern is about the safety of the kids, he understands the value of this. The council has a tough decision about this to make regarding what is necessary and needed and what would work to make it better. He thinks there is a

real concern about the amount of traffic being diverted off of Saginaw coming onto Maple. The Village doesn't have an alternative north-south, we only have Grange Hall and E. Maple which run us north and south on Saginaw. The Village might be able to find some medium ground is looking at how to slow that volume of traffic coming down Maple now and coming through town. He is really concerned about the bike paths, he gets it, he sees it, but every town he has been through they have alternatives for the traffic flows. The council has a really tough decision to make and a lot of things to look through. You need people to be able to get in and out of the businesses. He thinks that long term they have a lot of research to do but they need to figure out what to do with the kids and how to keep them safe. Proposals like this get the brain thinking and opens up other possibilities.

President Bladzick stated the study did include a recommendation that due to our geography we only do have one north-south trunk line which is Saginaw and one of the things they did recommend was to try to identify other alternative north-south trunks. He knows the administration is looking at this in terms of more specific of a plan at this point for the council to consider in the future. Nothing exists in a vacuum, it's not doing one thing without having to look at other things in the process. He runs up and down Saginaw quite frequently and in areas where the sidewalk is right up against the road is because they widened the road, they didn't move the sidewalks when they widened the road therefore there is no easement because that was the product of the widening.

Sarah McCanney, 106 John Street, stated she

applauds and appreciates the effort to inspire more beauty in our Village, even though we can't afford to do some of it and we can't legally take over property to improve the blight, anything we can do to inspire, she is really for that. At first she was against the road diet, she and her husband and girls enjoy walking in the Village and the idea of having the bike, while she was initially against it, she probably won't use it as she won't have her kids right next to the traffic. They don't currently walk to the Dairy Queen or the library, they drive there because it smells and is dirty with road debris. It doesn't feel safe because everyone is driving fast past them, so putting the bike lane in, she would appreciate the buffer between the sidewalk and the road. They would certainly use that Midtown area more as a family with this in place. Just a perspective from someone with young kids and she thinks it would encourage them to spend more time in this corridor. She stated that if the worst case scenario happens and the traffic is terrible was a real concern for her and then she looked at Maple Street. She used to live on Maple and it was terrible getting out onto Maple because it only has one lane. She thinks if Maple had a middle lane she thinks it would improve that roadway, so with the center lane on Saginaw she thinks that will help move Saginaw.

Dale McWhorter, 201 Seminole stated that he keeps hearing bicycles and to be honest this plan that the Village has, he doesn't see why. He sees an illusion because most towns build bike trails and we have that property out there that we could make into something practical for bikers. Someone mentioned the traffic there and you are able to work around that if you can deal with the businesses. We are talking about building this and he thinks this

has to be part of the blight and thinks this has to be a package deal.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated they talked that this would be easy to undo and it certainly would be because it is just a matter of striping the lanes but what is the before and after metric. Have you got any studies on anything that you are looking to improve before so we can measure the before and after and make a rationale decision instead of something based upon emotions. We need studies before the change, not just after the change.

President Bladzick stated that brings up a good point in that right now in the room there are about 75 people in the room, approximately 6,000 people in the Village, 12,000 people in the Township, there are 40,000 people in the four township area so when it comes to making a decision on something that we aren't absolutely required to do, how do we do that with such a small sample size that come to a meeting as well as the 244 people who submitted on this issue. He thanked everyone for coming and giving their input but still wants the council to consider their decision based upon such a small sample.

John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw stated there would be maybe 10 bikes a day and 14,000 cars a day. We are going to accommodate this great surge that is going to take place as a result of changing the road. All you are going to do is making 12,014 people a day very unhappy. He lives on the street and it is a task to get out as it is and now they have the ability to go around him as he backs out of the driveway and they won't have that ability with the change. It is going to be a great inconvenience for everyone except for people

walking or a few pedestrians riding their bikes. There is not going to be some miracle where Holly is going to boom. This is not going to be the trigger that is going to change the future of this community. It's going to make it worse. Fenton did some stupid things, this is not any kind of improvement.

Rick Boltmer, 10186 Chestnut Ridge Court, Holly Township, stated he does a lot of bike riding. He does come into town and ride but he does not ride on Saginaw because they are not safe. You can't ride on the sidewalks because of the pedestrians and you can't ride on the road because of the traffic. He supports and applauds this effort.

Jennifer Warner, 16267 Worden, Holly stated they have talked a bit about the bike trail but said that the majority of the people in this town drive a vehicle. When you take four lanes and reduce it down to two lanes, it is going to affect all of us. Anyone who drives through town will be affected by this and she thinks it is going to cause a lot of frustration that everyone is going to have so that is something to consider.

Lenore Johnston, 713 Mary Ann stated she is both a driver and enjoys biking and she rides a lot pretty much in her neighborhood. The roads coming into downtown are terrible and she has to get off the bike and walk it. Saginaw Street right now is dangerous; she is not sure on a three wheeler if she would feel safe. Her understanding is that this is not so much to bring traffic downtown but to alleviate the congestion going through town, is that correct? She would like to be able to go to the north end of town but the roads are dangerous down there and you can't get across. She wants to understand the

motivation behind the bike lanes; some think we are trying to bring more businesses to town and others think that we are just trying to alleviate the congestion. She says more power to it, keep working at it. Holly used to be a great little town; she lived in the Waterford /Pontiac area all her life and it was really great to come up to all the little stores and businesses in Holly. It's not like that anymore. We need to do whatever we can to bring back general shopping need business. It seems like we have a lot of shops that have special needs in specific areas, they are not general shopping stores. She thinks this is a great start to do what we can to make Holly a better place to live, travel and shop.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated one of the studies he would like to see done is the business volume that we have in downtown, uptown and midtown before and after and see the changes that have occurred. If you don't do the studies you are just shot gunning this whole thing. As far as bicycles, we do have a bicycle route through town that is not marked, no one knows about it. Mr. Walker said something about that in one of his meetings late last year so he knows about it and why isn't this bike path marked or at least publicized. That should be the number one priority, it wouldn't cost anything. Now that the sidewalk is on Grange Hall Road it makes that part of the roadway much safer and it is a great place to ride a bicycle on that sidewalk. He would like to see the bike path extended to the east towards the mobile home park. He has ridden this area and gone down to Norman's land across the creek and that needs to be opened up which would encourage people to come downtown and wouldn't have to deal with Saginaw Street. These simple things could be done very inexpensively, just

marking those pathways through town would really do that.

Manager Walker stated that he thinks what Mr. Magaw was talking about where the bike paths, which currently go through the Pulte subdivision that connect Academy and go back through Pulte subs and exit back out on Grange Hall. Part of the proposed bike paths would be to continue through Riverside up to Fish Lane Road and ultimately go out to Seven Lakes Park. Holly Township is working with us, working with them very well, the Township has been a good partner in this, and there is also a group, LAFF cyclists, which did a presentation to the Council several weeks ago, that are working on a trail system that does just that. Their eventual goal is to attach it to Seven Lakes Park. Is it going to happen tomorrow, no, but you have to start planning today.

Galon Christian, 140 Bevin, stated he knows we are talking about the re-painting and there won't be any additional costs but with the left hand turn lane will there be any adjustment to turn signals.

President Bladzick stated that this would be part of the consideration process and these are the kinds of things that would be asked and are being asked now. Will the council determine the timing of the lights; no, we would trust administration to handle this matter. He speaks for himself only but he trusts that if we do this the administration will dot their "I"s and cross their "T"s. A traffic change is going to require a lot of signage and he trusts that these things are going to occur and he encourages people to contact our administration with any concerns. The light at Airport is pretty critical for people to be able

to turn because when it wasn't timed correctly, it was impossible to turn.

Mr. Christian stated they run maybe 18 to 20 deliveries a day and he knows it sounds selfish but whose opinion is this? He doesn't want what used to be a three minute delivery to take something down to Coleman's is now 20 minutes.

Council Member Heiple stated she had someone send her a question asking about the quality of the pavement on Saginaw Street and would it change the effect going from four lanes to three lanes.

Unintelligible discussion amongst several individuals.

DPW Director Klaassen stated at the next council meeting there will be a request to have our engineers do a pacer ratings study on all of the roads. That road is actually 12 – 14" thick because when they did widen it they paved over the existing road so in certain areas it is going to be thicker. There is some rutting but when we change the configuration we will have to give that consideration also.

Village President Bladzick read Billy Carmen, email into the public hearing record

Hi Ryan, Dave and Cathy,

I'm writing to express our 100% approval and support for the Saginaw Street Corridor within the Village of Holly. A bike lane and street improvements along with all the other plans are terrific and welcomed. It would be a great thing for Holly along with its residents and visitors. We hope the project can start very soon. Everything we see [in](#)

*this proposal would be great. The only thing we ask is to **NOT allow** chains like StarBucks, McDonalds, etc to infringe on the charm of Holly Village. Local small businesses are the best.*

*Thank you so much,
Billy and Julie Carmen
WizardDistribution.com*

203 N. Saginaw
Holly, MI 48442
Phone 248-382-5642

Joe Hutchins, 419 Thomas Street, stated he has lived on Thomas Street almost 40 years. There is kind of an east-west, north-south, cut through town; if you folks want a real nice shortcut, go down Park, go down Holly Bush and zoom up Thomas Street and wave as you go by. There is a lot of bike traffic in town but everyone kind of stays off the main road. He has two Schwinn's and a Spree that he won't take on N. Saginaw because it's too dangerous. We do have some more problems in town, there is another alternative the Village Manager talked which was political years ago but now is time to be discussed. He is glad to see something happen in Holly and it is nice to see progress no matter how small.

Council Member Rankin brought up the re-development of Holly Convalescent and what a huge undertaking this job is. He thinks that a lot of people don't realize it because it is tucked away in a small corner of the Village but this whole development is a huge undertaking.

Mr. Hutchins stated that for many years nothing got done but this board and the current administration have really made some

positive changes.

Council Member Cruickshank stated that when Michigan started adding roundabouts; people were really scared about them and while there is still some controversy, it is not near what people thought it would be. They are a great asset. The businesses and the blight that are along N. Saginaw; no one likes that. His understanding is that they have either been sold or are for sale. It is not something that we are just sitting by and not doing anything. Just because it appears blightful that property owner has rights just like we have rights. There are active things going on there; it's not just sitting there.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that if Northern Oak Brewery takes advantage of this and builds their patio out front, this is not easy to reverse. If this isn't permanent then his patio won't be permanent either and it is going to have an impact.

CM 2016-024 Motion by Heiple, second by Rankin to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all eyes and no nays.

Public Hearing closed at 9:15 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw Street, stated he has been here for 25 years and has made an effort to improve the blight that was here, something that you people have failed to do since in the time he has been there. The entrance to this community from Milford Road, you have the Waterworks that needs a

paint job, at least, there is no sign on the name of the river, there is no sign that there is a canoe launch there, these are the kinds of things. Ganshaw Park have all these trees that have grown up, there is a dead canoe back in the bushes and all kinds of debris back in there. The Ganshaw Park sign instead of putting it in front of the ugly meters, they put it beside the meters. He would like to see a welcome center, we have an abandoned fire hall that the township does use and it could be used as a welcome center so people could stop by and learn what's here. We have these assets that are not being dealt with that are in our community. If you want to slow down traffic, put some speed bumps in.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

#1. Consideration of a Veteran's Resource Center at the Karl Richter Community Center.

Joe Mishler, 620 Academy Road, stated that for veterans, we are in no man's land out here.

We have a hard time getting coverage from Pontiac and Flint. If you are a veteran you have to go to Flint, Detroit or Saginaw to get any kind of help. The Veteran's Administration itself has a chart of the State of Michigan and we are in one of those L-shaped sort of things that has no direct service. The Michigan Department of Veteran Affairs says the same thing. Many Veterans don't want to go to Pontiac, Flint or Detroit and many Veterans are getting older and travel is difficult. Last summer they put together a committee which consisted of Ina

Golden, George Kullis, Andy Potter, Dick Rossell, Ray Feeney, Nick Klempp, Art Ingraham and Toni Brinker and one of the first things they did was conduct a survey. They got the survey from the Oakland County Veteran's affairs who sent it to the committee and they modified it. They sent it out to a 25 mile radius to every veteran's agency and churches. 95% of the people felt that the Karl Richter Campus would be an excellent place for the Veteran's Center. These are people from all over, Linden, Oxford, Clarkston, here around town. The survey also surprised him because there are a lot of Veteran's that don't want to join an organization. Well over 90% of the veterans would like an information that they could go to and get help. They would like a place that would offer classes on benefits, a place that would have certified service officers; they also said they wanted a gathering place. They received 217 responses to the survey from all over. What they would like to do at the Karl Richter Center is to have one room set aside at the center, they have picked the art room because there are two individual offices in there for privacy, and they have to be concerned about HIPPA laws and so forth. For the last three Tuesdays there have been certified service officers out here to assist veterans with their needs. They presented the business plan to the school board at the last meeting; the Village has requested a business plan from the Veteran's committee and one was provided to the Village Manager and they met with the schools and the schools had some concerns that were addressed through a joint meeting and they are at the meeting tonight looking for the councils support. They have people committed to working on this through the long haul. They are not looking to take anything away from existing veteran's organizations

which is about 1% of the people, if you look at our community, you have veterans, you have non-veterans and we have people who are willing to work on this in the long haul.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Rebar, 405 S. Saginaw stated it sounds like a wonderful addition to the community. Of the 98+ folks who responded, she asked why they chose Holly.

Mr. Mishler stated that it is location, location, location. Holly is far more central than Linden and some of the other places polled.

Sam Alvarado, VFW Commander, 17088 Fish Lake Road, stated he is a veteran of Vietnam and that when he came back from Vietnam they were not welcome at the VFW. Something changed about three years ago with Mr. Winglemire and Bud Mendez when he called and said that they needed those guys down there and he wasn't sure about it because of the way they were treated. Ultimately he and several others were welcomed down at the VFW and sworn it at that time. He does not believe that veterans do not want to go to a VFW to get help, he is 100% disabled and he got help from the VA. He has also heard that he wants to open a library and bring in all of the war things in so people can sit there and look at it. They don't even have that at the VFW, hardly anyone drinks down there. He has also heard that some of the guys who are walking in are getting asked if they want to join the American Legion and he doesn't do that. He asked what we are talking about here. The VFW and the American Legion is for veterans, he has a mission statement that he also reads before meetings and he is also a

delegate for the Michigan Department of Purple Heart. They help all veterans. He will do anything for veterans, his post, their members, anything. The VFW post is open to all Veterans any time of day.

Mr. Mishler stated that he is not sure who is asking people to join the American Legion, that is not what this is about. That is not what they are doing. You don't see the American Legion's name on there, you don't see the VFW's name on there, they are not trying to take anything away from anybody. He is on the Michigan State Veterans Council and also a member of the Purple Heart. Regarding a library, he offered a donation of books because there are a lot of places around the nation that offer this. No one is trying to establish anything other than what is going to help veterans.

Dick Rossell, 512 E. Maple, stated that he has been involved with the committee to help organize this and he thinks we need to be careful because he doesn't want to see this turn into a contest because it shouldn't be. It isn't about the VFW or the American Legion and veterans do need help, he's needed help. For medical help he goes to Ann Arbor, other help he goes to Pontiac. He thinks this is something the community dearly needs to do for the Veterans and keep personalities out of it and do it for the right reasons.

Ray Feeney, VFW Post #5587, stated that he is on the committee and one thing he can guarantee is that there has only been two people sitting there greeting people and that has been Joe and himself. No one has mentioned a veteran's organization. He was not sold when he joined the committee, he wanted to gather data fast and the

preponderance of data was very high. Our center is not open every day, only two days per month, the other issue is that every veterans organization that he is familiar with have mutually exclusive requirements, no everyone can join the American Legion, not everyone can join the VFW and that is eye opening. The Vietnam veterans are starting to become the preponderance of veterans out there as well as younger post 9-1-1 and they are even less available to our organizations. We don't know exactly where we are going, we are going to grow with the needs but the survey has shown us so much. The data talks and it's an extremely eye opening piece of information and he would like them to look at this and consider it because this will be an asset to the community.

Sam Alvarado, 17088 Fish Lake Road, stated that he just wanted to say that their post is open rent free and it is his understanding that there is a rental fee here and this deal about veterans not wanting to go to the VFW for help they are not that way. They help all veterans, period.

John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw, stated he is a Vietnam veteran too and he is a member of the Vietnam Veterans Association. The real problem he sees is the fact that the VA is a bureaucratic mess. He has asked the Council to write a letter to reform this thing and take care of people, not put a lot of monuments around the downtown.

Lenore Johnston, 713 Mary Ann, stated that her better half needed some information about some survival rights and the forms necessary. They found out that they were able to visit the Grand Blanc Senior Center who hosts the veterans one day per month and he was able to

get service there. She thinks this idea is great to offer in this area.

Andy Potter, 300 East Street, stated he is a Veteran and that he does not belong to any veterans groups. He doesn't need any benefits now or information now but someday he may need this and it may be better for him to go the community center for information as a neutral place versus to the VFW or the American Legion.

Sam Alvarado, 17088 Fish Lake Road, stated that their post is paying for Art Ingrahm to become a certified service officers.

Angie Lemon, 116 College Street, stated that her husband is a veteran and he will not join the VFW or the American Legion. She thinks that they would rather come to someplace more private. She doesn't see what the problem would be coming to a place like this that is neutral. He is facing issues with his PTSD and he needs a place to go that he can talk about it.

Art Ingram, 11151 Terrace Road, Holly, stated he is on the committee for the veteran's center and is also a member of the VFW and the American Legion. When the project was started, one of the things that he found is that people have questions about VA benefits and the last place you want to go to is the Veterans Administration. Like Sam said most of the information they get is from other veterans and when they talk amongst each other they find out how to work through the system. They have found out there are 650,000 veterans who will be getting out of the service from Kuwait, Iraq, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Desert Shield and there will be a lot of information and a lot of help they need. There

are a lot of issues that they need help and there is just not one organization that can help them.

Toni Brinker, KRCC Director gave an example of services provided at the veteran's center. She talked with a man who used the service and expressed his appreciation for using the center without anyone knowing why he was there. She thinks that as it grows they are going to rely on the VFW and the American Legion to help people man the door but she does think the Karl Richter does offer a neutral place.

Council Member Rankin said he was not aware that there was so much animosity between the groups.

Sam Alvarado, 17088 Fish Lake Road, stated there was no animosity and he is only providing help to persons needing it. He was wounded really badly, he was stabbed five times, and didn't want to go to the VFW because of the way he was treated, but that has all changed because of all the publicity and now we're all treated like heroes. He doesn't have any animosity, he just doesn't understand why someone would pay rent when you can get it for free.

Joe Mishler, 620 Academy, stated that the committee decided to have one building so that it would not move around. There is some rent involved and they have a couple of grants and have some other grants they are looking at. They are trying to provide a service that doesn't exist at this moment.

Council Member Kleven asked what he wanted from the Village.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he thought this building belonged to the school district.

President Bladzick stated that the school does own the building but the Village is responsible for managing the use of our areas of the building where the veteran's service center would be.

CM 2016-025 Motion by Allsop, second by Heiple to approve the dedication of the space for a Holly Veteran's service center.

Council Member Rankin asked if this would be a five day a week staffed center or once or twice a week.

Mr. Mishler stated that he could not answer that until they went to other groups to see what they could offer.

Ray Fenney addressed the council but the recorder was unable to clearly pick up his comments.

Dick Rossell, 512 E. Maple stated that he thinks everyone shares a concern for veterans. He thinks this facility needs to be available and he thinks it would be an honorable thing for the board to donate the space. If we set it up, they will come.

Council Member Cruickshank asked what the rent charge was for the year.

Mr. Mishler stated it was \$5,000 per year. If the room is not being used it would be available to senior citizen groups and the Family Game Night.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

#2. Consideration of Resolution 2016-008, to amend the Rules of Procedure for the Village of Holly Village Council.

CM 2016-026 Motion by Cruickshank, second by Rankin to adopt Resolution 2016-008 to amend the Rules of Procedure for the Village of Holly Council.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington, stated there are two motions combined into one because one is the freedom of the public to speak before each motion is voted on and the other one is to restrict it to just that motion, is that correct?

President Bladzick stated there are four. When the council moved over to the Karl Richter Center is to update the address to this location, number two is the public comment form two weeks ago passed must be germane to the business item that is being discussed, number three is redundant of what was done at the last meeting and number four is that the Clerk has to only follow the Michigan Open Meetings Act when she takes the minutes.

Jim O'Brien, 205 First Street, stated that he is baffled that the whole proposal seems like it's tied into the one that says the comment must be germane to one specific thing so it seems contradictory. It seems like it would be simpler to keep the comments focused on one thing at a time.

President Bladzick stated to clarify that when you do amendments to the rules you would keep them focused on one topic.

CM 2016-026 Motion by Cruickshank, second by Allsop to divide the question into four questions as follows: #1. Section 1.3 amendment regarding meeting location; #2. Section 3.1, Subsection 8.A. regarding items not listed on the agenda; #3. Section 3.1, Subsection 14 to add Section A regarding addressing Council; #4. Section 5.2, Record of Discussion to "Minutes; Preparation".

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he is for dividing it into four parts.

Motion carried by a voice vote of all ayes and no nays.

Question #1

Holly Village Council amends Section 1.3; Place of Meetings, of the Village of Holly Council Rules & Procedures to read as follows:

All regular or special meetings of the Village Council shall be held in the Village of Holly Council Chambers located in the Karl Richter Center, 920 E. Baird Street, Holly, Michigan except that a majority of the Village Council may designate a different place for any regular or special meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he is biased because he can walk to the other place but he thinks the council had a better situation at the previous location where you had a microphone for each individual person that was available for the public and it was lot

more formal setup and he likes that and it seems to him that they had more room there too.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Cruickshank, Heiple, Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

Question #2

Holly Village Council amends Section 3.1; Order of Business, Subsection 8.A. of the Village of Holly Council Rules & Procedures to read as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he would like for it to remain the way it was. He would like to have it unrestricted, he is not going to be here for the whole meeting and he thinks it should be open for any topic that they want to discuss.

- A. Members of the public can address council *for items not listed on the agenda* once recognized by the chairperson. Comments are limited to a maximum of four minutes. Council may extend this time by up to an additional four minutes by a majority vote. Prior to addressing council, members of the public shall state their name and address for the record.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: None

Voting against: Heiple, Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Cruickshank, Bladzik

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

Question #3

Village Council amends Section 3.1; Order of Business, Subsection 14 to add Section “A” to read as follows:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington thinks this is one of the best things he has heard in local government in a long time. It encourages people from the community to have their say before you vote on specific issues.

- A. Members of the public can address council once recognized by the chairperson. Comments are limited to a maximum of four minutes. Council may extend this time by up to an additional four minutes by a majority vote. Prior to addressing council, members of the public shall state their name and address for the record.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Cruickshank, Heiple, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave
Motion carried.

Question #4

Village Council amends section 5.2; Record of Discussion to “Minutes; Preparation” to read as follows:

The Village Clerk-Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining a written a written record of each meeting showing the date, time, place, members present, members absent, any decisions made at a meeting open to the public, a record of all roll call votes taken and the purpose or purposes for which a closed session is held. The minutes shall be prepared in the manner provided for in the Michigan Open Meetings Act, Section 9; (1-4).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he really doesn’t understand what this means and asked what we were doing now.

President Bladzick stated the Open Meetings Act only requires certain details of the meetings be included for instance, who is present, votes taken, action taken.

Mr. Magaw asked about the public comment. Would it be included in this?

President Bladzick stated it would be a record of who spoke.

Jim Manning, 210 Grant Street, stated that in dealing with the township on these issues it only says “Jim Manning address the board”. He doesn’t expect verbatim but you should know why I am here.

President Bladzick stated that would be up to the discretion of the Clerk/Treasurer, you are not required to put that information under the Open Meetings Act.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated the most efficient form of government is a dictatorship and he thinks the publics comments should be noted, not in detail, at least something about why they were for or against a motion.

Angie Lemon, 111 Cogshall, asked the Clerk/Treasurer what she thought about this. She stated if you are going back over an agenda and trying to remember something that took place six months ago, how you are supposed to remember.

Council Member Heiple stated that she took her own notes.

Council Member Rankin stated that specific information is available by the recording.

Jim Manning, 210 Grant stated that the township is okay but after a week the tape is erased and recorded over again. There is no physical record that you can go back on. He asked if there was a recording of everyone who spoke tonight.

Council Member Kleven asked how long these were kept.

Mr. Magaw asked who it was available to.

Clerk/Treasurer Behrens stated that there recordings are maintained for three years and there is a charge for a recording of the meeting.

Manager Walker stated that it is not practical to expect verbatim minutes. If you look at the history of the Clerk/Treasurer she has never put in there "Mr. Manning made a comment".

There is not an issue now and she is operating under the guidelines of the Open Meetings Act. Recommendation of staff is to leave it as is; there is not a problem; if there is a problem in the future you can always come back to it. She is doing a fine job and the minutes have improved 100% in the time since she has been here. We are spending a lot of time talking about a small detail which is not a problem. His recommendation is to not make it as if there is a problem; the system works fine now; let's move on.

Council Member Kleven asked if someone could request that their comments be verbatim.

Manager Walker stated that someone could request it but it is not required and it is just not practical given her duties.

President Bladzick stated that the Clerk/Treasurer will have 3 ½ hours of minutes to transcribe from tonight's meeting that she is going to have to transcribe and she performs this duty herself due to eliminating the outsourcing of this role several years ago to decrease costs and increase efficiencies.

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington stated that he agreed with Mr. Walker that the merits have been very good, he just wishes they would spell his name right.

President Bladzick stated that he would address Ms. Lemon's question about what the Council thought about this and he stated he would

answer for himself and it has to do with Mr. Magaw's comment about the most efficient form of government being a dictatorship. There are 168 hours in a week and they are elected to be the decision makers and the legislative body for the Village. We had a very long public hearing tonight; since he became Village President he has never felt the need to stifle public comment but he has felt the need to have more structure in public meetings. He would love for a roomful of people to come and give their four minutes of comment and if they are making good public comments he has no problem extending their time to make their point. He personally feels when it comes time to handle the business of the Village, that is what we were elected for. We were elected to make that decision. A good point was made regarding remembering what happened a couple of meeting ago and this is where responsibility comes in; we need to take notes. It is not the government's responsibility if Mr. Rankin or Mr. Cruickshank do or don't take notes. It's the same if we are outside of the Council, we are council members seven days a week. If we aren't doing research on our codification process is or what the budget requirements are then we aren't doing our job effectively. That is why his approach since he became Village President, is to run an efficient, productive meeting. We are going on 3 hours and 35 minutes. In terms of this, he supports this one and saves our Clerk/Treasurer a little bit of time because we have a budget that she needs to compile, we have a code of ordinances that need to be reviewed and there is a list of 40 issues that we need to review and make decisions on, there is the issue of bond re-financing over the last three years which has taken an inordinate amount of time. Being efficient is important at our business

meetings. We are a body of seven and he is only one vote so if anyone else wants to open it further they can do so

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Rankin, Allsop, Cruickshank, Heiple, Kleven, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

#3. Consideration of the Lumber package purchase for the DPW Storage Building.

DPW Director Klaassen stated that during the 2015-16 budget process the addition of a storage building was approved at 201 Elm Street. He solicited bids from four companies and his recommendation is to go with a local company in town, Kerton Lumber, and to use them for quality of product and convenience.

Council Member Kleven asked if this is what he originally figured the price of the lumber would be.

Director Klaassen stated there is roughly \$115,000 set aside for the building as a whole.

Council Member Kleven asked if he broke down what the lumber cost would be. He is concerned if we approve this piecemeal he is afraid it will be higher.

Director Klaassen stated that he priced the entire project as a package and it came in about \$45,000 over what was budgeted, that is why they are handling some of the items in house to save funds.

Cm 2016-027 Motion by Allsop, second by Rankin to approve the lumber purchase from Kerton Lumber in the amount of \$43,770.50.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Magaw, 213 Washington asked if the Village Council received written estimates so they know what is going on.

Lenore Johnston asked if Kerton Lumber was the lowest bid.

President Bladzik stated the lowest bid was Home Depot.

Ms. Johnston stated that

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Cruickshank, Heiple, Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

#4. Consideration of Resolution 2016-009, to set the 2016 Holly Mill Pond Special Assessment Roll in the amount of \$5,956.74.

CM 2016-028 Motion by Rankin, second by Allsop to approve Resolution 2016-009 to set the 2016 Holly Mill Pond Special Assessment Roll in the amount of \$5,956.74.

Motion by Heiple to waive the reading.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Cruickshank, Heiple, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

#5. Consideration of the approval of the Council Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2016.

CM 2016-029 Motion by Kleven, second by Rankin to postpone the item to the next meeting due to the late hour.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Roll call vote was as follows:

Voting for: Kleven, Rankin, Allsop, Cruickshank, Heiple, Bladzik

Voting against: None

Absent: Musgrave

Motion carried.

REPORTS

Village Manager

Manager Walker stated that Chief McGee is currently investigating a SAFER grant that does not require any local match for two years. The purpose of this position would be to fund Fire Marshal activities as well as some Code Enforcement. The Village is currently investigating this avenue but the grant would

not be accepted without council approval. Staff will continue to investigate this unless the Council wishes them to stop.

Attorney

Attorney Gildner stated that in regards to the Silverman issue he has received documents in response to two subpoenas he served to first, the real estate agent and second to the bank. He has moved forward with a recording a notice of judgment lien against the properties, there appear to be four or five now that are actively being marketed right now. He needs to secure some additional information to finalize this and then he will report further.

Clerk/Treasurer

Nothing to report.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Council Member Heiple stated that tomorrow is the study session on zoning amendments on E. Maple.

Council Member Rankin stated that the Parks Commission meeting is next week.

Council Member Kleven stated that the Community Coalition is having a town meeting Thursday, February 25th titled "Knowledge Saves Lives". They will have a panel there and Chief Story will be there.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

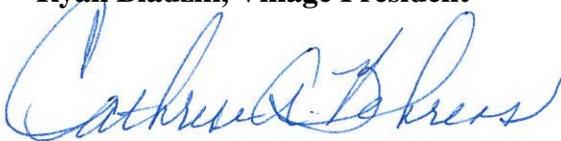
John Lauve, 200 N. Saginaw stated that he was here when they re-wrote the charter and one thing he wanted to have done is the twice a month meetings. That is a good example and he would like to have them consider placing this on the next ballot.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Village President Bladzik adjourned the meeting at 22:45.



Ryan Bladzik, Village President



Cathrene A. Behrens, Clerk/Treasurer