



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018  
5:30 P.M.  
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 5:30 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

**Council Members Present:** President Hargreave, Trustee Bassage, Trustee Heffner, Trustee Hagaman, Trustee Brand, Trustee Loomis, Trustee Salyer

**Council Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Attorney Charles Lillis, Village Manager Zuzga, Utility Manager Laney, and Clerk/Treasurer Rzepka

**Public Present:** Andy Barrand, Brian Ditton, Alex Ditton, Robert Weddle, Arlene Weddle, Judy Snyder, Nocola Deaton, Robert Montgomery, John Kopacz, Laura Kopacz, Shirley Hobbs, Claudia Parker, Dan Parker, Norm Keesler, Lorrie Keesler, Ann Brewer, Marcus Douglas, Christopher Douglas, Kimberly Douglas, Linda McCall, Christy Berry, Laura Loomis, Deb Cartwright, Philip Muir, Margaret Muir, Valerie Packer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

Motion to approve the agenda made by Trustee Bassage with support given by Trustee Hagaman

7 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of Regular Council Meeting, July 17, 2018

B. Village Manager's Report

C. Financial Reports and Statistics

Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Trustee Salyer with support given by Trustee Bassage

7 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

5. APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS & RD PAY REQUESTS

Bills were discussed by Zuzga, addressing some of the larger bills: Republic-Village wide garbage service, RD Draw-work that has been done through the current date, Parrish Excavating-June draw for work done, Rothenberger-June draw for work done, C2AE-work done in July, 06Cap Imp Bond- last payment, Utility Svcs-Quarterly servicing, BCBS-Insurance, Lukazcek-work from 2014/2015

Motion to approve payment of bills made by Trustee Bassage with support given by Trustee Salyer

**Ayes:** Trustee Heffner, Trustee Hagaman, Trustee Salyer, Trustee Loomis, and Trustee Brand, Trustee Bassage, and President Hargreave

**Nays:** N/A

7 ayes 0 nays Motion Carried

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## 6. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Ordinance #234 and 235 Ordinances to Regulate Medical Marijuana-Hearing opened at 5:34 P.M.

President Hargreave explained the rules for the open hearing and explained that each person will receive five minutes to speak and will receive a one minute warning toward the end of their time. Hargreave also expressed that disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated while someone else is speaking.

Zuzga explained that after new council member, Trustee Salyer, was appointed, he was asked to re-address the ordinances to regulate medical marijuana. If passed, the new ordinance would supersede the previous to not allow.

President Hargreave asked what would happen if the ordinances were not passed?

Zuzga stated that the issue of recreational marijuana will be going on the ballot in November. If passed and the ordinances are not in place, the Village would have less authority to monitor sales/growth/lab/transport/safety compliance. Zuzga also stated that the Village would not receive revenue.

Dan Parker asked what would be available per the ordinance?

Zuzga stated that all five possible licenses may be available under the ordinance.

Leslie Schaefer asked Zuzga if he could clarify what constitutional changes he was speaking of?

Zuzga did not say constitutional changes, he said changes to the ordinance.

Dan Parker asked what the five provisions were being addressed?

Zuzga answered that it would be sales/growth/lab/secured transport/safety compliance.

### **Public Comment**

Brian Ditton (non Village resident) addressed the council stating that they were approved in reading as provisional. Pills attack both the liver and kidneys, but that marijuana does not. Pills have gotten out of hand to the point of Amazon separating and packaging your pills. Brian stated that there are a lot of benefits with medical marijuana that don't require you to receive the high with THC. Ditton stated that Israel is the most advanced with marijuana and they do not have the opium problem that the US does.

Debra Cartwright (Village resident) stated that she has lived in the community for eighteen years and was here the last time the discussion of these ordinances took place.

Debra questioned if the council was elected?

President Hargreave answered that the council positions are elected.

Debra Cartwright questioned why other townships have accepted the vote down of these ordinances, but our village is not?

Trustee Salyer stated that she feels there is a need for this and people should not have to drive so far for medication.

President Hargreave stated that she feels a lot of people would receive benefit from this.

Debra Cartwright questioned if the council felt they were able to represent all of the village?

Trustee Loomis stated that you are never going to be able to represent all of Quincy, as Quincy is often divided. Much of this comes down to who they have talked to and what their personal beliefs are.

Debra Cartwright questioned that if recreational marijuana passes, does the Village feel they will get revenue?

Zuga stated that if it passes and the Village does not have anything in place, they would not be able to receive revenue.

Trustee Bassage expressed that her opinion is based on the control factor. With the ordinances the Village will be able to control the number of distributors.

Trustee Loomis stated that if passed, this would be a business that would be regulated by police. The growing would regulate fertilizers and would be a tested, controlled process. Debra Cartwright stated that she would like to think Quincy has good values and in her opinion, this is not a good idea.

Alex Ditton (non Village resident) stated that this would allow the process to be monitored from seed to sale. Marijuana is being grown all over currently and this would allow a more controlled and regulated process allowing the product to be tracked to the card owner. Alex stated that this is not something that someone would want to jeopardize. Alex and his father already have over \$12,000.00 invested in their security. Norm Keesler stated that he has been a prison guard for over 23 years. Most prisoners are there for drug related crimes. Norm stated that the Village will not be able to control the crime that this will bring. Norm communicated that there is a responsibility for the safety of the community. Norm discussed issues of car chases and what if a toddler is in the street when something like this takes place.

Nicole Deaton questioned that if this is not passed, do we have to allow it?

Zuzga stated no.

Nicole Deaton (non Village resident) questioned how the council could neglect what the Village wants? Quincy does not have the manpower. Nicole also questioned if anyone on the council knew how many drug bust there had been in the school? The Fraternal Order of Police are against this. Accidents go up 14% around dispensaries. Nicole also brought up that federal funds may be forfeited if this were to be put in place and that the council should consider how the community feels about this matter.

President Hargreave asked that attorney Chuck Lillis explain how this matter was able to be brought back up.

Lillis stated the council was entitled to bring it back up with the new council member.

Trustee Heffner stated that Trustee Loomis brought this up.

Robert Montgomery (non Village resident) stated that he has been a member of the community for 30 years. There are a lot of unknowns and this is a big decision, do we want it here? Robert stated that money is at the bottom of the decision. Questioned what kind of a message are we passing to our youth? Robert was offended that while giving a sermon, there were T-shirts being sold promoting beer. Robert felt that since this was voted down, it shouldn't be rehashed and we could let Marshall have it. Marijuana is the biggest arrest rate for drugs and is still a category one illegal drug. Robert also stated that this could jeopardize federal funding.

Dan Parkerwater (non Village resident) stated that the Coldwater rejected this and so should Quincy. Why are we back to this issue? Dan stated that he is not talking about medical marijuana and that is something between a patient and their doctor. Dan also stated that there are unintended consequences referring to odor/garbage/property value/crime. Under no circumstances should this be passed.

Christy Berry stated that there is underage drinking now even with supervision, so how could you monitor this? She is afraid of losing federal funding. Symptoms include decreased coordination and male infertility. Christy also stated that it leads to increased

rent cost and could cause someone to lose their job if tested for an accident at work. Christy stated she does not want to see this passed and that we do not have enough police coverage for this.

Marcus Douglas (Village resident) has been in the area for 15 years and stated that the potential monetary gain only comes if passed in November. He stated that you cannot control or tax this. He also address there are likely to be people under the influence while driving and working. Marcus does not support this ordinance being passed.

Kimberly Douglas (Village resident) stated there are a lot that spoke against this and she does not want it in her community. Kimberly feels we are selling out our children in the community.

Leslie Schaefer (non Village resident) questioned when Wendy found out about this issue?

Trustee Salyer stated that she was at the original meeting and that she also was at the Joint Planning Commission meeting when it was discussed.

Leslie Schaefer questioned Zuzga when this was brought up to him?

Zuzga stated that it was brought up to him prior to the June council meeting, but due to notice requirements was put on the July agenda.

Leslie questioned how Trustee Salyer was appointed to her seat on the council?

Trustee Salyer stated that she expressed interest in the open seat, was nominated by Trustee Loomis and was voted in unanimously by the council.

Trustee Loomis stated that the choice was between Trustee Salyer and Laura Loomis who is on the Joint Planning Commission. Loomis stated that Wendy attended almost all of the council meetings and felt she would be a good fit for the council.

Leslie stated that it looks like the fox guarding the hen house. She also questioned if the Village Police Department is covering the township too?

Zuzga stated that they are contracted with the township to respond to request from the township and have been providing this service for three years. The township would like additional coverage and are therefore placing a millage on the ballot in November.

Leslie argued that edibles cannot be controlled for the amount that is in them and disbursed.

Mike Budd (Village resident) stated he has been in the community for 34 years. Mike questioned whether or not there have been other ordinances passed that allow businesses to not follow federal law? He stated that they cannot just follow community or state law and not federal law. Mike asked that the council not fail the community by passing this ordinance.

Laura Loomis (Village resident) has been a part of the community for 8 years and is currently on the Planning Commission that reviewed all the ordinances and feel that this is a good idea. This would allow people to do what they need to do medically in their own home. Laura stated that edibles are tested. Laura is her husband's care giver and should not have to drive so far to get medicine that others have available to them. Parents should be responsible to keep this out of reach of their children. Laura hopes that the police millage passes and they receive what they need to do their job.

Trustee Loomis expressed that he and Laura Loomis are not related.

Christopher Douglas (Village resident) has been in the community for 15 years.

Christopher stated that we have not been able to control underage drinking, so how is this going to be controlled if passed? Does the Village have a plan for this?

Trustee Bassage stated that this goes back to parenting and controlling what your children have access to.

Christopher stated that we can't control alcohol so how do we expect to control pot? Are we expecting police to regulate this in private homes?

Shirley Hobbs (non Village resident) stated that she didn't think people need to drive that far and that we do not need to have this in our community.

Public meeting closed at 6:47 P.M.

Zuzga stated that there are options of either doing nothing, pass the ordinances, review at a later time, or to allow for only a certain number of licenses. There are options of limiting per category the number of licenses allowed.

Trustee Heffner suggested holding a special election to allow the residents to vote on this.

Zuzga stated that it could not be put on the November ballot and would need to be a special election, therefore the Village would incur the cost.

Trustee Heffner inquired of the cost of a special election?

Zuzga stated that he believed it would be \$5,000.00

Motion was made by Trustee Salyer to adopt ordinances #234 and #235 to regulate medical marijuana, with support given by Trustee Loomis

Ayes: Trustee Salyer, Trustee Loomis, Trustee Bassage, and President Hargreave

Nays: Trustee Heffner, Trustee Hagaman, and Trustee Brand

4 ayes 3 nays Motion Carried

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tricia Rzepka commented that it is a shame that half the room left after the marijuana issue was discussed and did not stay to hear the rest of what is going on in the Village. It is also a shame that the majority of meetings don't have public present at them.

Debra Cartwright stated that it is sad that the council was elected to represent the people.

Christy Berry questioned if there would be a stop sign put in West bound at the intersection of Liberty and Fulton? Can she have chickens within the Village? Christy also questioned if she will be getting a replacement tree?

Zuzga stated that the sign will be going in. The lot that Christy has is too small for chickens, has to have at least an acre and that the tree will be replaced.

Laura Loomis thanked the council and hopes that the police millage is voted through in November.

President Hargreave stated that it has been difficult getting people to be on council and come to council meetings. Hargreave also stated that it is difficult to find how to communicate information to all residents.

## 8. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Branch County Update – Information is included in the packet for the Branch County updates

B. Fire Department Update – Zuzga and President Hargreave reported that the department had one of their trucks that was being repaired come back into service and then a different truck went down. Currently they are getting specifications for a new truck.

C. Utility Department Update – Laney stated that there has been a lot of discussion in the media regarding P-fos in drinking water, the state is testing for this and will be in next week to test Quincy’s water. Laney also reported that Parrish is primarily done with their contracted work, just needing to do some additional sidewalk and curb restoration. Wood and Orange Street intersection will be paved.

Zuzga thanked the residents for their patience throughout this process.

Trustee Hagaman commended Parrish for their prompt work time and good work.

D. Police Department Update – Chief Burch is currently in Munising, MI to watch his son graduate academy and hiring in at their local police department.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

A. 6 West Street customer request – Resident was informed of high usage and upon Streets Foreman Face following up, it was determined that their water softener was continuing to cycle, not using or treating sewer. They are asking that the additional sewer usage be waived, as it was not treated.

Motion to approve waiving additional sewer charges made by Trustee Bassage with support given by Trustee Loomis

Ayes: Trustee Heffner, Trustee Hagaman, Trustee Salyer, Trustee Loomis, and Trustee Brand, Trustee Bassage, and President Hargreave

Nays: N/A

7 ayes 0 nays Motion Carried

B.

C.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION

Zuzga announced that the Main Street Festival will be this weekend. Traffic will be shut down for the car show, Rotary will have their chicken bbq starting at noon, corn hole has been moved to the open property near the basketball courts.

Trustee Loomis stated that President Hargreave is looking for judges for the car show if someone wants to help.

Attorney Lillis stated that just by approving ordinances this evening does not mean you will have these facilities in the Village. The State of Michigan has to approve before they can approach the community.

Leslie Schaefer questioned if the Village is allowing all five licenses to be available?

Zuzga – yes

Schaefer asked if this can be shortened up?

Lillis stated that it can be reviewed every three years.

Laura Loomis stated that since ordinances have been available, there have only been sixteen licenses in the State of Michigan.

Zuzga announced that this Thursday will be the last Sounds of Summer in the park.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Rzepka  
Clerk/Treasurer

