

CITY OF COLOMA
Regular Commission Meeting
October 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order in the City Commission Chambers at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Polashak.

Present: Churchill, Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Smith, Polashak, Darling.
Absent: Hicks.

Visitors: Bill Smith, Sieg Freitag, Rod Burkholder, Alice Mow, Julie Pupedis, Christina Gelder, Harold Bragg, Doug Geisler, Dave Vollrath, Bruce Vandervort, Jason Roe, Roseann Clements, Kelly Clements & Emma, Boy Scout Troop #696.

Comm. Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Pledge.

Approval of Agenda: Smith added Closed Session to discuss the applications for Ordinance Officer. Motion by Churchill, seconded by Clements, to approve the Agenda, as amended. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

**Agenda
Approved.**

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Smith, seconded by Hammond, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 25, 2017, as printed. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

**Minutes
Approved.**

Comments from Citizens and Visitors:

*Jack Smith, spokesperson for the Boy Scout Troop #696, said that they are present to ask permission to take over the launch along the Paw Paw River. They are offering to clean it, maintain it, and would like to use it as a place to camp. They would like to start immediately. Hammond told them to talk to Rod Burkholder before starting the project. A motion was made by Churchill, seconded by Smith, to approve the request from the Boy Scouts to take over the launch. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Jack Smith.

**Boy Scout Troop
#696 Request
Approved.**

*Harold Bragg commended the Boy Scout Troop for offering to do this project. He said that he is present at the meeting to express his wish that we gain an Ordinance Officer and do it soon so that our Ordinances can be enforced. He particularly pointed out a house on Morrison Street that he thinks needs to be torn down. He also mentioned that we need to have pride in our community and see that the ordinances are enforced.

Harold Bragg.

*Doug Geisler was present to request a lot split of property that he owns in order to sell it to two property owners on Walnut and Center Streets. He presented a sketch of the vacant property to the Commission. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Churchill, seconded by Clements, to approve the lot split, as requested. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Doug Geisler

**Lot Split
Approved.**

*Bruce Vandervort,, representing the Estate of Victor and Mary Vandervort, was present to request a variance for a shed that is located partially on city property and near Well #2. The address is at 547 N. West Street, Lot # 0077-04-8 and belonged to his parents, who are now deceased. The family needs to have this addressed before the property can be sold. Vandervort presented handouts to Commission and explained exactly where the variance is needed. After a discussion, a motion was made by Clements, seconded by Churchill, that the variance be granted with the understanding that no chemical products be stored in the shed. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Bruce Vandervort.

Lot# 0077-04-8 Variance Approved.

*Dave Vollrath reported that the County Commission has now taken over the Berrien County Road Commission. Things are going well. They will be working on their Budget.

Dave Vollrath.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Finance/Insurance: Motion by Churchill, seconded by Freitag, to approve the payment of bills through September 30, 2017 totaling \$149,021.54. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED. There was nothing on Insurance.

Payment of Bills Approved.

Public Works: None.

Police: Chief Roe went over the monthly report. He also briefly reported on the lockdown at the Junior High and High School earlier in the day due to reports of a Junior High student with a gun. The gun has not been found yet. The investigation is still going on. A motion was made by Churchill, seconded by Clements, to approve the Police Activity Report for the month of September, 2017, as presented. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Police Activity Report Approved.

Clerk: None.

Ordinance: No report.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Freitag, to close the open meeting and go into a closed session at 8:03 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the applications that were submitted for Ordinance Officer. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Open Meeting closed for Closed Session.

A motion was made by Hammond, seconded by Churchill, to end the Closed Session at 8:18 p.m. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Closed Session Ended

A motion was made by Churchill, seconded by Hammond, to reopen the regular session at 8:19 p.m. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Open Meeting Resumed.

A motion was made by Hammond, seconded by Clements, to set up a meeting with the top candidate for Ordinance Officer. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Candidate Meeting Approved.

Fire Board: Freitag said that the new Fire Chief has been doing a good job.

Freitag.

Treasurer: Motion by Hammond, seconded by Freitag, to accept the Treasurer's Report for August, 2017, as presented. Yes: Clements, Freitag, Hammond, Churchill, Smith, Polashak. No: none. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report Approved.

Correspondence: None.

Adjournment: Motion by Hammond, seconded by Churchill, to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Voice vote taken. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha L. Darling, Clerk

James L. Polashak, Mayor