

**VILLAGE OF HOLLY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes of September 9, 2008**

---

The regular meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Holly was called to order by President Clemens at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Council Chambers located at 315 S. Broad Street, Holly, Michigan.

---

**Councilmembers Present**

Don Winglemire  
Pauline Kenner  
William Kuyk  
Sandra Kleven  
Tom McKenney  
Reisa Hamilton  
Peter Clemens

**Council Members Absent**

**Staff Present**

Marsha Powers  
Rollie Gackstetter  
Marv Swanson  
Tim Stallcup  
Richard Figura

**Others Present**

Larry Lilly  
Jim Weil  
Gordon Johnson  
Patti Burgess  
Amy Mayhew

**Others Present Cont.**

James Perkins  
Rebecca Johnson  
Shandera Weishuhn  
Sue Austin  
Joe Austin  
Regina Westfall  
Joe Palarchio  
Rolland Miller  
Elena Miller  
Jackie Campbell  
Curley Grant  
Jessica Misenar  
Karen Tooley

---

Clemens opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Agenda Approval
2. Approval of Regular Council Minutes of August 28, 2008; Special meeting minutes of 8-19-08 and 8-20-08
3. Approval of Bills for Payment \$342,388.84
4. Routine Reports:
  - Planning Commission Spec. Mtg. 8-4-08
  - DDA 8-11-08
5. Resolution 2008-54 Amending FY 08-09 budget
6. Resolution 2008-55 ZBA Appointments

---

Changes:

- Add Consent #6: Resolution 2008-55 Appointments to the ZBA

**Motion Winglemire, second Kuyk to accept the agenda as amended. Motion carried by a voice vote of seven ayes and no nays.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joe Austin of 3398 Hilltop Dr:

- Unhappy with implementation of new water billing
- Got copy of the ordinance stating higher billing will begin July 1, 2008
- He gets quarterly bill and was billed at the higher rate for May and June
- Was told rate was retroactive when he called the office but feels the higher

- rate should only apply to July
- Should not be retroactive for May and June
- His attorney said there was not a clear case for the resident or the Village
- Was told the technology was not ready to do a monthly rate yet
- Unfair implementation. Should re-bill everyone at old rate or do a proration
- Or residents will go to Small Claims Court
- Council said this is the first they have heard of this and will need time to respond

Gordon Johnson of 202 Grant Street:

- Pays taxes and water bills on time
- Complained his taxes are being used for Twp. water & police services

Patty Burgess of 3402 Hilltop Dr:

- Water bill was \$1,210.72
- Never used as much water as stated on bill
- DPW checked meter & found no leak
- Asked Village to charge on past usage
- Asking Council for help
- Doesn't feel they used 92,000 gallons
- Rate is outrageous
- Water quality it awful
- Holly rate is much higher than area communities
- Has taken readings on meter for various uses and knows they did not use this much water
- Winglemire said he had a high bill once because a toilet was running all the time
- Resident has checked for leaks and has found no problem
- Meter doesn't move constantly

- Council said they would take her problem under advisement

Rebecca Johnson of 15185 Seeley:

- Has two meters
- Inside usage was 109,000
- Sewer was 16,000
- Has water shipped in for pool
- Does not have a leak
- Has a huge discrepancy
- Does not water grass after mid-May
- Has a family of 6

Larry Lilly of 110 Clarence:

- Does not like quality of water
- Has problem with calcium wrecking his pipes, water heater, coffee pots, etc.
- Recommended filter for calcium and was ignored
- Asked that Charter Amendments be in November of even years to ensure a major turn out

Jackie Campbell of 807 Mary Ann:

- If residents want the Village to provide softened water they should pay for it out of their taxes

Larry Lilly of 110 Clarence:

- Asked for calcium filter before 18 million was spent on water and sewer

Joe Austin of 3398 Hilltop Dr.:

- Asked when he might have a response on his water issue
- Clemens said once they are able to gather the needed information
- Residents will likely be contacted prior to the next meeting

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Millpond Special Assessment Roll**

**Motion Winglemire, second Kenner to enter Public Hearing. Motion carried by a voice vote of seven ayes and no nays.**

Larry Lilly of 110 Clarence:

- How much will it cost
- \$10, 912 for 1 year was the response
- Kuyk said formula had to be changed and was more expensive this year

Tom Clark of 800 Hartner:

- Asked what assessment is for
- Clemens explained it is to clean weeds out of the Millpond and only those who own property on the lake are assessed

**Motion Winglemire, second Kuyk to exit Public Hearing. Motion carried by a voice vote of seven ayes and no nays.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) **Charter Amendments** (*next available election August 2010*)  
Hold election in August to have amendments in charter for November council election
- b) **Building and Grounds Committee – Cemetery property lease**
  - Nothing new to report
- c) **Paul Schimmeyer resignation (tabled).**
  - This item remained tabled

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) Public Safety Committee Report**

- Good meeting with the police and Township
- Outside calls were increasing and Village needs relief
- Asked townships to work together to give relief to the Village while still giving help to the State Police
- Costs were not discussed but Gackstetter may have numbers
- Up to the townships to determine how much help they would need
- Winglemire noted Tyrone Twp. signed a \$133,000 contract with the County for police protection
- McKenney said no one went to the Township formally, but some Twp. personnel were at the meeting
- Committee took no action
- Gackstetter has suggested 5 levels of service
- Should formally talk to the Twp.
- State Police were surprised at the level of services being provided
- Has been talk of charging for calls for years
- Number of calls for each entity in the last year was: Holly Twp 1088, Rose Twp. 745, Groveland 1,393 and the Village had 127 calls
- Powers said they were waiting for MSP to give detailed information from last years calls before talking to the Twp.

**REPORTS:**

**Village Manager / Clerk – Treasurer:**

Powers comments:

- First round of monthly bills will be going out the next day
- Will extend the due date for the first billing to the 30th to give people 20 days to pay
- Council will meet at 5:45 on 9-23-08 for training on the Emergency Operations Plan
- County sent a letter saying tax dollars will drop by 3½% to 4½ % over the next year
- An office employee will be off 6 weeks for surgery
- Village money in the bank is insured up to \$100,000 and Village does not use risky banks

**Attorney:**

Figura comments:

- George Young lawsuit was discussed
- He claims actions taken by the Village caused damages to his property
- Condemnations claims are often not covered by insurance

**Council & Staff Comments:**

- Council will wait on staff for information on the water billing issue
- Staff has looked at several meters and found they are functioning properly
- There is no way to prorate a bill or go through a rebilling
- A credit could be issued, but base charges would then be added and bills would average out to about the same as the current bill

- Main issue was being billed at the higher rate for May and June
- Some of the usage seemed very high
- Even though there may not be a big difference, staff should take 2 or 3 bills and show what residents would have been charged at the old rate
- A small leak can cause big charges

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With nothing further to discuss, Clemens adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

---

**Peter Clemens, Village President**

---

**Marsha A. Powers, CMC-CPFA  
Clerk-Treasurer**

---

**Sheri McGee, Transcriber**