Pursuant to SB 1008, the Village of Spring Lake is conducting its business virtually to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

President Powers called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. **MERS Presentation (Mike Overley)** – MERS Regional Manager Mike Overley was present to discuss topics related to the retirement plans that the Village has with MERS and to discuss any MERS-related topics or questions. In addition, Mike discussed the 2019 Annual Actuarial Valuation report that reflects new economic assumptions passed by the MERS Board last year along with a preview of upcoming demographic assumption change impacts that will be reflected in contribution requirements in fiscal year 2022. Council was appreciative of this presentation and said Mr. Overley answered their questions.

2. **Demolition Bids – 109 S. Jackson Street (Wally Delamater)** – The proposed demolition, anticipated to begin this month, only removes the building. Property owned beyond the building boundary is owned by the Village. When the building is removed, the raised concrete curb and sidewalk around the building will remain. Pitsch is the contractor slated to remove the building. Pitsch was contacted and asked to provide a proposal to remove the raised concrete curb and sidewalk around the building.

   Burns explained that the property swap was still on the table, however, the appraisal had not come back yet. Burns said that Brandon Brown was still moving forward with his project whether there was a property swap or not, and demolition permits have been applied to remove the building. Burns explained that Pitsch would be doing the demolition and has been working with Delamater on utility connections, etc., and while they are on site, Delamater has been getting estimates to remove the concrete curb and sidewalk at the same time as demolition to save money. Council was in favor of putting this item on the Consent Agenda.

3. **Water Line Abandonment (Wally Delamater)** – MDOT is planning a resurfacing and repair project on Savidge from Fruitport Road to the Spring Lake bridge. This means new asphalt surface will be installed on Savidge, curb-to-curb. This road project was the catalyst for this project. MDOT is anticipating their project to begin July 19, 2021 with completion at the end of August 2021.

   For years, when a water service originating from a water main under Savidge was no longer needed, it was simply shut off at the property line (or curb stop). That portion of the service line under Savidge from the main to the property line was not shut off. A total of nine live service lines were located under Savidge; due to age and material they will never be put back into service.

   This goal was to locate as many abandoned service lines as possible and then have them disconnected prior to the resurfacing project. Hopefully, this will lessen the chances of a future failure.
Delamater explained that Norther Pipeline was the low bidder on this project, so he was asking for a nod of approval to move forward so they could keep on MDOT’s schedule for this Fiscal Year. Council approved adding this item to the Consent Agenda.

4. Parking Lot Resurfacing Bids (Wally Delamater) – The DDA budgeted to resurface and repair drainage issues in the both the Baber and Clock Tower parking lots. Moore and Bruggink (M&B), for a fee of $3,950.00, performed the design engineering. Council approved moving forward with the bid process 11-9-2020 after M&B provided the engineering estimate for Council. Three bids were received December 9, 2020 (enclosed). Bultsma Construction was low bid in the amount of $63,53.79. M&B provided Council with a bid recommendation and a project estimate that included a construction inspection fee and contingency. Total Project Estimate: $79,000.00

Proposed Project Schedule:
- Release for Bid: November 9, 2020
- Open Bids: December 9, 2020
- Award by Council: January 11, 2021
- Preconstruction Mtg: April 14, 2021
- Start Construction: After May 10, 2021 (two-week period)
- Completion Date: Before June 30, 2021

Delamater explained that bids had come in within budget for this DDA funded project, so he was asking for permission to move forward, especially on the Clock Tower parking lot where there was a large hole that made plowing difficult. Council approved adding this item to the Consent Agenda.

5. Water Main Repair (Wally Delamater) – November 9th Council agreed to move forward with the project. Although it was not clear how quickly we should move? The real determination may have to be made after the project is bid out. This will give us realistic costs to consider. A professional engineering/consulting firm will have to be hired to develop the design, initiate permit process and prepare contract/bid documents is to hire an Engineering/Consulting Firm. M&B have provided a Design and Engineering Cost to further this project. The M&B proposal can be split into 2 phases. Approve the Design Phase and wait on the Construction phase until after the bids are received to determine continuation into the construction phase.

Delamater explained that, while they no longer had the urgency to get this project done and it was not inexpensive, he did not want to lose track of it. Council discussed that this was another project that had been kicked down the road for several years, but President Powers asked about putting this off for another year. Delamater explained that they could wait, however, the hydraulic analysis showed a need in that area where there was a larger demand for fire and domestic flows, but they did have time for more discussion. TePastte suggested that it be done now since there would be additional expenses coming up in a year or two, such as Mill Point Park if the water levels go down. Duer, Van Strate, Miller and Hanks agreed with TePastte. President Powers asked Hinga what he thought the split would be between the DDA and the General Fund. Hinga thought that would be a question for the DDA Director, but it was located completely within the DDA boundaries and this type of infrastructure plan was authorized by their plan and considered an approved expense for County Tax dollars that
were being captured. President Powers asked if they went ahead with the engineering portion now, were they obligated to follow through with the project. Delamater said they could start with the engineering portion and wait for the next fiscal year to do the project. Council agreed with getting started with the engineering design and they will discuss further after that was received.

6. Waste Hauling Licenses for 2021 – Each year, Council has to approve the licensing applications for waste haulers who wish to work in the Village.

Burns reported that, so far, she had only received an application from Republic and was hoping she would receive applications from Kuerth and Arrowaste in time for the actual Council meeting.

7. Budget Adjustments (Marv Hinga) – Hinga reported the following Budget Adjustments:

   a) Adjust Public Improvement Fund Budget for emergency stormwater main repairs.
   b) Adjust Police Retirement Budget for the supplemental payment made in December 2020.
   c) Adjust Retirement Contribution Budgets for the $50,000 supplemental payment made in December 2020.

Hinga said that the Finance Committee reviewed these adjustments prior to this meeting. TePASTE said the Finance Committee supported the adjustments. Council also supported the adjustments to add to the Consent Agenda.

8. USDA Resolution (Marv Hinga) – In 2020 the Village Council authorized borrowing through the USDA up to $2.4 million for water improvements and up to $3.6 million for sewer improvements. The cost estimates from Moore & Bruggink have come in at $3.36 million for water system improvements and $3.03 million for sewer system improvements.

Hinga reported that the estimates were higher than expected on the water side so they would need to do another Notice of Intent to borrow more money. TePASTE said the Finance Committee reluctantly agreed that this was something they should ask for but not necessarily spend the entire amount. Council agreed this item could be added to the Consent Agenda.

9. Parks Reopening – Council Member Mark Miller requested an update on plans to reopen the parks (specifically Mill Point Park) for the 2021 season. While precipitation is lower than normal for this time of year, water levels remain at unprecedented levels. It would be our goal to reopen Mill Point Park for 2021, but it still feels too early to make that call.

Burns shared water level graphs with Council that showed that water levels were down compared to this time last year, but the forecast indicated that water levels were still going to be at historic highs. Burns recommended that they plan on facilities being open with the understanding that the final decisions wouldn’t be made for at least a month or two. Burns said Tanglefoot docks could be brought in but opening Mill Point would need to wait to see if the parking lot and boardwalk were dry and safe. Miller said he was just trying to figure out what to do for the Wooden Boat Show, so he just wanted to start the conversation. Council agreed that, as much as they would all like to see Mill Point Park open, it was too soon to make that decision. Van Strate suggested looking into purchasing the vacant lot at School
St. and Exchange to use for parking. Council discussed the idea and was interested in looking into the possibility of purchasing that property at some point.

10. Communications
- Complaints
  - Sidewalk Snow Removal (Marshall)
  - Sidewalk Snow Removal (Rollins)
  - Sidewalk Snow Removal (Kochmansi)
  - Water Main Break (Hibler)
- Compliment
  - Sidewalk Snow Removal (Draft)
  - Sparkle (Turgeon)

- **Goal Setting Meeting** - President Powers suggested that, under the current COVID circumstances, they cancel the upcoming Goal Setting meeting. Council agreed.
- Burns reported that earlier in the day, Hinga had received a copy of a contract from MDOT to amend the resurfacing estimate for Savidge St. from Lake Ave. and the bridge that added the parking along the south side of Savidge that Council had talked about doing earlier, for a cost of $13,000. Council agreed this could be added to the Consent Agenda.
- Burns reported that Johnson had sent out the RFP’s for Tanglefoot and bids should be back for the February meeting.

11. Minutes - Minutes of the December 7, 2020 Work Session and December 14, 2020 regular meeting were attached for review.

12. Public Comment – Lee Schuitema, 408 W. Exchange, said he agreed with Van Strate regarding additional parking for Mill Point and that, regularly, people were parking down at the end of Cutler St. and walking into the park so having additional parking would make the park more usable.

Erik Erhorn introduced himself as the new Crockery Township Supervisor and thanked Council for working with Crockery Township and looked forward to continuing to work together.

13. Adjournment: There being no further business, Village Council adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.