

VILLAGE OF SARANAC  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
January 12, 2015

The Saranac Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Darby at 7:01 p.m. at the Saranac Municipal Building, 27 N. Bridge Street.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Darby, Smith, Straubel, trustees – Doll, Klutman, Mackey, Simmons, Whorley, DPW Simmons

Absent: None

Guests: None

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to approve the Regular Agenda, with an amendment to exclude Agenda Item 4 (ZBA Public Hearing – Request for Sign Ordinance Variance, 40 N Bridge Street – Burkett Signs for Speedway LLC), as the Applicant rescinded their request. All yeas.

Public Comments – None.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Doll, to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2014 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Simmons, to approve the Treasurer's Report of December 31, 2014. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mackey, to approve the Accounts Payable of January 12, 2015, in the amount of \$72,190.01.

Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Klutman, Mackey, Simmons, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

The Zoning Administrator's report was reviewed.

Doll inquired if Vandersloot could include dates of specific action items on her report. Straubel will follow up with Vandersloot.

Mackey inquired about the on-going situation of parking on and driving across sidewalks.

The Planning Commission did not meet in January.

Committee Reports

Public Safety

Council members reviewed Deputy Charon's monthly status report and Tip of the Month.

The current Agreement for Sheriff's Office Services between the Village of Saranac and Ionia County, expires 2/28/15. A proposed renewal contract will be presented at February's Regular Council meeting, for council's consideration.

### Budget

Straubel provided council members with Budget vs Actual reports through 12/31/14 for committee review and to aid in establishing proposed 2015/2016 budgets. Straubel inquired if February's Regular Council meeting could be held February 16<sup>th</sup> to allow additional time for budget preparation. Council concurred.

Jim Doezeema, Village Attorney, confirmed via email response to Straubel's inquiry, that the village is not required by statute to request citizen vote on increasing Street mills, as long as they stay within the headlee roll back cap. An increase however, would require a vote of council members, with 2/3 approval.

Council discussed the impact of increasing Street mills as well as adding an Administrative fee to the Village tax bills. Based on 2014 taxable values, a 1 mill increase would generate \$19,475 more in tax dollars, for specific use on village streets. A 1% administrative fee, based on 2014 property tax bills, would generate \$2,518.

Straubel requested that committee chairs submit budget requests by 1/31/15.

Parks & Recreation – No report.

### Buildings & Grounds

DPW Simmons stated that an electrician was called in to inspect the wiring at the Fire Station. Simmons was given an estimate of \$2400 to upgrade, with an additional \$650 for a generator.

### Streets

Klutman stated that Ionia County has invited the Village of Saranac to participate in a county-wide chip and seal project this spring/summer, which would allow for better pricing.

Darby stated that a decision needs to be made regarding proposed Street projects, so the Streets Committee can propose a 2015/2016 budget.

### Water & Sewer

Doll reported on a machine that he has been researching, to remove duck weed in the sewer lagoons. The cost of the machine is \$6,400. The Water/Sewer Committee will meet to discuss this topic further.

DPW Simmons has not received the video of the sewer main/lateral at 62 Center Street. Council reviewed email correspondence from the owner of 62 Center Street, regarding a recent backup in their home. Council concurred that DPW Simmons is to review the video and proceed according to what is found.

### Personnel

Darby stated that the committee is in the process of making revisions to the Employee Handbook.

DPW Simmons inquired if the committee had made any decisions regarding switching from village owned cell phones to a cell phone stipend. Darby stated that the committee had recently finalized a policy and form. She will provide it to Simmons this week for review.

Additional Business – None.

Public Comments – None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk