

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2015

The Saranac Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Darby at 7:00 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 Mackey, to approve the Regular Agenda. All yeas.

Public Comments – None.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Doll, to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2015 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Simmons, to approve the Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2015. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Whorley, to approve the Accounts Payable of October 12, 2015, in the amount of \$71,061.32.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report was reviewed.

The Planning Commission is holding a Special Meeting on Wednesday, October 14th at 7 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to review proposed amendments to the Sign Section of the Village Zoning Ordinance, prepared by Jeanne Vandersloot, Zoning Administrator. An informational letter was sent on October 7th to all business/property owners located in (or near) the Central Business District, to inform them of and invite them to the meeting.

Committee Reports

Public Safety

Council members reviewed Deputy Jack Pieters Law Enforcement Report for September 2015.

DPW Simmons reported on recent park vandalism at Scheid Park and the Nature Park.

Per DPW Simmons, an Eagle Scout candidate will soon begin clearing brush and improving the area where the Rail Trail connects to Scheid Park. The intent is to make Scheid Park more visible and inviting to trail users.

Budget – No report.

Parks & Recreation

The MDNR's Grand River Water Trail meeting that was scheduled for September 23rd, is being rescheduled. Darby encouraged village involvement in this newly created endeavor.

The Parks Committee met with Fleis & VandenBrink Engineer Aaron Catlin, regarding improvements to the property at the Boat Launch Park. Committee members brainstormed and created a wish list of items. Catlin will put together a budget for the next meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, November 5th at 6 p.m.

Per Catlin, the wish list is consistent with the Village's current Recreation Master Plan, so no amendments are necessary.

MDNR Trust Fund Grant applications are due April 1, 2016. If awarded a grant, improvements to the property at the Boat Launch Park would likely begin in the Spring of 2017.

At council's direction, Straubel will request pick up of the portable restroom located on Bridge Street, across from the Depot, at the end of the current monthly billing cycle (on or around November 6th).

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

Streets – No report.

Water & Sewer

Todd Richter, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineer, provided Straubel with a brief email update on the SAW Grant timeline. He plans to attend November's council meeting to discuss the project in further detail.

Personnel

Darby requested council action to clarify intent of the "Non-Participation in Health Insurance" section of the Employee Handbook (page 36).

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Mackey, to clarify language in the Employee Handbook, "Non-Participation in Health Insurance" (page 36), effective December 1, 2015, as follows: the monthly benefit for employees who choose to opt out of health insurance, is equivalent to 85% of the expected cost of the employee's medical premium for single coverage, up to a maximum of \$350.00 per month.

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

Additional Business

Darby received an invitation to the ICEA's annual Economic Forum for Ionia County. Straubel will forward the correspondence to council members, via email.

Public Comments – None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk