

VILLAGE OF SARANAC  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 10, 2019

The Saranac Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Darby at 7:00 p.m. at the Saranac Village Office, 27 N Bridge Street.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Darby, Straubel, DPW Simmons; Trustees – Doll, Klutman, Mulnix, Simmons, Whorley

Absent: None

Guests: None

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Simmons, to approve the Regular Agenda. All yeas.

Public Comments – None.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Mulnix, to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2019 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to accept the Treasurer's Report of May 31, 2019. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

DPW Simmons provided council with an explanation of the cost incurred to replace a section of sidewalk on Mill Street. Per Simmons, he had a verbal agreement with a Mill Street resident, which was not honored by the resident. For the safety of Village pedestrians, Simmons made the executive decision to replace the sidewalk. Straubel will follow up with Vandersloot on time limitations of the zoning permit issued to the Mill Street resident nearly one year ago.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Klutman, to approve the Accounts Payable of June 10, 2019, in the amount of \$109,207.02.

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

The Zoning Administrators Report for May 2019 was reviewed.

Council discussed the zoning permit recently approved by Vandersloot, for a food truck to conduct business two days a week in a privately-owned parking lot on Bridge Street. It was noted that there has been another food truck in town on various occasions, parked on a privately-owned lot on the corner of Church and Bridge Streets. Straubel will inquire whether a zoning permit has been approved for this food truck as well. Council members concurred that all vendors of the mobile type, need to follow the same zoning approval process.

Council discussed two verbal complaints received from business owners located in the Village, regarding the food trucks being allowed in the Village. The chief complaint is that they take customers away from traditional, tax-paying businesses.

Council discussed the pros and cons of allowing food trucks. The consensus was that there should be a zoning ordinance section pertaining to mobile food vendors, stipulating restrictions, permit fees and number of units allowed in the Village at the same time. Straubel will confer with Vandersloot on the topic.

Klutman reported that the Planning Commission has rescheduled their July regular meeting from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>. The July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be held in concurrence with a Public Hearing to consider comments on proposed amendments to the 2012 Village of Saranac Master Plan.

Klutman also reported that Planning Commission member Dave Shaw accepted the position of interim Chairperson until a new member is appointed to replace Hackett.

Council discussed the fact that the existing Planning Commission Ordinance allows for up to two members who reside outside of the Village. However, this ordinance was established when the Planning Commission had seven members. The number of Planning Commission members has since been reduced to five. Council concurred that the ordinance should be amended to allow only one member from outside of the Village. Straubel will confer with Doezeema on the amendment process.

#### Committee Reports

##### Parks & Recreation

DPW Simmons reported on the progress of the Trailhead project. The project is expected to be complete by or before BridgeFest (August 24<sup>th</sup>). Per Simmons, contractors experienced a slow start due to weather, but activity has picked up and utilities were recently connected at the site.

Darby informed council that she received a complaint that the lock on the boat launch porta-john is broke. DPW Simmons will contact Kerkstra Service to request a replacement unit.

It was brought to Darby's attention, that a Village resident may be interested in investing in improvements to Scheid Park, specifically the ball fields. Per Simmons, Saranac Youth Baseball League is in the process of raising money to add another field. Darby will pass this information along.

##### Streets

Klutman was pleased to report that the Village was selected for a 2020 Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category B grant for up to \$250,000 for reconstruction of Center Street. According to engineer's estimates, the total project is expected to cost \$850,000, \$350,000 of which will be utility work (paid for with water/sewer fund reserves) and \$500,000 of which is street related. The grant will cover up to 50% of street related costs.

DPW Simmons reported that Snyder Asphalt, located in Saranac, will be crack and chip sealing various Village streets this year. Council was pleased that the Village is able to contract with a local company for this service.

DPW Simmons informed council members of a water drainage issue between neighbors on Parsonage Street. Council concurred that the Village has no jurisdiction/responsibility in regard to the issue, as it is a civil matter between neighbors.

##### Buildings & Grounds

Straubel reported that the sale of 57 and 63 N Bridge Street to the Saranac Library was complete, with the Village netting \$173,630.75 after closing costs.

Public Safety

Council reviewed Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for the month of May 2019.

Water & Sewer

Council discussed the recent health advisory notice issued by Ionia County Health Department. The advisory was down-graded on June 7<sup>th</sup> from a "No Body Contact" advisory to a "Partial Body Contact" advisory. This means that activities such as boating and fishing are unlikely to pose a health threat, however, the ICHD strongly recommends that full immersion in the water or consuming river water be avoided.

Simmons informed council that during the discharge of lagoon #4 at the WWTF, two samples of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) exceeded the limits established by the DEQ. Per Simmons, there is no logical explanation for the high readings, as the pre-discharge samples were well within range. The Village is required to supply the DEQ with a written noncompliance notice for the limit violations. Straubel and Simmons will prepare and submit the required information.

Per Straubel, the annual Consumers Confidence Report has been submitted to the DEQ for approval to distribute to Village water customers. The report must be delivered by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Budget – No report.

Personnel – No report.

Public Comments

Additional Business

Klutman shared a newspaper notice with council, regarding Easton Township's recent adoption of an ordinance to allow certain medical marijuana facilities.

Council members revisited the topic of medical and recreational marijuana as it relates to the Village of Saranac. Straubel will confer with Doezema and Vandersloot regarding potential ordinances.

Straubel reported that the Saranac Library is hosting a "Where's Waldo" event during the month of August.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



Becky A Straubel, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk