

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2016

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, Mulnix, Ricket, Whorley, DPW Simmons
Absent: Simmons
Guests: Deputy Jack Pieters, Geordie Ruid

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

Public Comments

Geordie Ruid was in attendance to inquire about his idea for an Eagle Scout project at the Saranac Cemetery on Mill Street. Darby informed Ruid that Boston Township owns the cemetery and that he should attend their next board meeting. Straubel provided Ruid with the phone number to the Boston Township Hall, so he could call to confirm their next meeting date and time.

Deputy Jack Pieters addressed the council and answered various questions pertaining to law enforcement within the Village. He will address areas of concern.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Mulnix, to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2016 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Klutman, to accept the minutes of the September 29, 2016 Special Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to approve the Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2016. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

Motion was made by Ricket, supported by Mulnix, to approve the Accounts Payable of October 10, 2016, in the amount of \$66,136.15.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report was reviewed.

Klutman currently serves as the Village Council representative on the Planning Commission and wishes to retire from the position. Ricket, who is already a member of the Planning Commission and was recently appointed as a Trustee on the Village Council, has agreed to accept the position.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Whorley, to appoint Jason Ricket as the Village Council representative on the Planning Commission Board. All yeas.

The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing in conjunction with their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 5th at 7 p.m., to consider adding fine amounts to the Violation Section of the Village of Saranac Zoning Ordinance, as proposed by Jeanne Vandersloot, Zoning Administrator.

Per Jason Ricket, Planning Commission Acting Chairperson, after hearing no public comment on the proposed amendments, the Planning Commission recommends that the Saranac Village Council adopt the proposed amendments by Resolution and Ordinance, as presented.

Council members discussed the proposed amendments.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Mulnix, to adopt by Resolution, Ordinance No. 101, An Ordinance to Amend the Village of Saranac Zoning Ordinance to Adopt Amendments to the Violation Section 30.25.17, as proposed by Jeanne Vandersloot, Zoning Administrator and recommended by the Village of Saranac Planning Commission.

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

Ricket reported that the Planning Commission also recommends that the Saranac Village Council appoint Tony Koster to serve as a member of the Planning Commission.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Ricket, to appoint Tony Koster to serve as a member of the Planning Commission, to fill a vacant position with a term expiring the 2nd Monday of June, 2017. All yeas.

Committee Reports

Public Safety

Council members received law enforcement reports from Deputy Jack Pieters for the months of July, August and September.

Mulnix inquired whether there have been improvements in Life EMS response times. Per Ricket, there has not been much change. Chief Simmons will contact Ionia County Central Dispatch for response times, to resolve discrepancies between Saranac Fire Department records and Life EMS records.

Budget – No report.

Parks & Recreation

Mulnix inquired if supplemental grant documents were submitted to the MDNR by the due date. Straubel confirmed that they were.

DPW Simmons explained to council members, a concern that was raised by two Historical Society members, regarding placement of a bench near the depot. Council concurred with Simmons decision to proceed with bench placement as requested, due to the fact that the chosen location is in the railroad right-of-way and not on depot grounds.

Buildings & Grounds

DPW Simmons informed council that the village has inherited the “treatment building” (filter shed) at Scheid Park. The building was constructed by Harrow Products in 1990 and used to house groundwater treatment equipment. The Village entered into an Easement Agreement with Harrow Products at that time. DPW Simmons was recently notified, that the purpose for which the easement rights were granted have been fulfilled and Harrow Products (now Geosyntec) has removed their equipment.

The Easement Agreement states that "At the Village's option, the Treatment Building, in its then-existing condition, shall become property of the Village." Per DPW Simmons, the building will require a few minor repairs, but is generally in good condition and is heated and insulated. The DPW will use it for equipment storage.

A document terminating the Easement Agreement will be drafted by Geosyntec. Straubel will request that Village Attorney Jim Doezema review the document before execution and Village acceptance of building ownership.

Streets

Council discussed a request to place a memorial bench in front of 70 Bridge Street. Per DPW Simmons, this is an acceptable location.

DPW Simmons and Straubel will work on a master plan that depicts current memorial bench locations, as well as a list of locations for future memorial bench placement.

Ricket inquired about another outlet for memorials. He suggested a granite monument for memory plaque purposes, possibly located near the future Trailhead.

Water & Sewer

Well #5 is currently not operable, per DPW Simmons. The quote from Peerless Midwest to repair it is \$8,039.60. This includes installing a variable speed/frequency drive, which will reduce the cost of the upcoming water tower improvements project, as well as future water tower projects.

Personnel – No report.

Public Comments – None.

Additional Business

The Saranac Community Association enjoyed a "minion making" day and their results are proudly displayed on Bridge Street. Tony Koster has been chosen to select a winner, who will receive movie passes.

DPW Simmons reported that he recently gave permission to Consumers Energy to access the Nature Park to trim trees along their power lines. The tree overgrowth created a recent power outage.

Straubel reported that she had an inquiry about the possibility of Dial-A-Ride services for Saranac Village residents. She has contacted the City of Ionia for information and will report back to council in November.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk