

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 14, 2017

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, Smith, DPW Simmons; Trustees – Doll, Klutman, Mulnix, Ricket, Simmons, Whorley

Absent: Straubel

Guests: Morgan Carroll, Deputy Kurt Bindus

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

Public Comments

Morgan Carroll, Business Development Coordinator for The Right Place (Kent and Ionia Counties), provided council with information regarding the services they provide. The Ionia County Economic Alliance (ICEA) and The Right Place are partners in helping businesses expand, retain and attract business by providing resources and employee training. The partnership provides opportunities for local high school students to tour facilities, allowing them to explore job opportunities in the local area.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to accept the minutes of the July 10, 2017 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Mulnix, to approve the Treasurer's Report of July 31, 2017. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to approve the Accounts Payable of August 14, 2017, in the amount of \$61,704.72.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report for July 2017 was reviewed.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Ricket, to approve a Resolution of Support & Acceptance of Terms of Agreement with MDNR for Project #TF-16-0182 – Trailhead Addition & Park Improvements Project.

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

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Klutman, to approve a Resolution to Accept Contract #17-5374 with MDOT and to Authorize Village Officials to Sign Said Contract.

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

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Mulnix to accept F & V's Proposal for Services to update the Village 5-year Recreation Master Plan, in the amount of \$5,000.00

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

Committee Reports

Public Safety

Deputy Kurt Bindus provided council with two reports for the month of July. Bindus is working with Straubel to create a flyer for the Village Facebook page, regarding the Village Ordinance Prohibiting Open Burning and firepit safety.

Mulnix thanked Bindus for his visible presence in the village, and Darby stated that she appreciated the new report format.

Darby provided council with a heads up regarding speed limits in the Village. We may need to have speed studies conducted. Council discussed different methods (and exceptions) of determining Village speed limits. Jim Doezema, Village Attorney, will advise council on how to proceed.

Per DPW Simmons, Roy Rood recently retired from the Saranac Fire Department, after providing over 30 years of service.

Ricket stated that there continues to be concerns relating to response times/availability provided by Life EMS and recently, the need for them to stay on scene for fire related calls. We are currently under contract, but it may be beneficial to bring up concerns upon contract renewal. Mulnix stated that the Village could consider Rockford EMS; however, they are experiencing similar issues.

Budget – No report.

Personnel

The Personnel Committee finalized their report on pay scale and salary ranges, with data collected from the MML's Wage and Salary Survey. The final document was shared with Village employees, as it relates to their individual position with the Village. Per Darby, two out of five Village employees have reached their rate-of-pay cap. This situation could change once cost of living catches up.

DPW Simmons stated that his department is experiencing some vacation scheduling difficulties. Due to the number of years they have been employed with the Village, some DPW employees have several weeks of vacation available annually. Currently, the Employee Handbook states that DPW vacation requests during the months of November through March may be limited due to snow removal duties. DPW Simmons requested that the council consider a more flexible winter vacation policy. Per Darby, the Personnel Committee will review this request and bring a recommendation back to council for consideration.

Per Darby, the Personnel Committee will bring insurance benefit renewal recommendations to council in time for renewal.

Parks & Recreation

Per Mulnix, the Parks & Recreation Committee has projects and planning pending, but nothing new to report at this time.

Darby reported that approximately 50 people participated in the Panda Night Run recently.

Streets

DPW Simmons reported that we are caught up with crack sealing at this time.

In light of recent Consumer's Energy tree cutting notices received by Village residents, DPW Simmons suggested the Streets Committee review the master plan regarding the placement of trees in the right of way. It may be beneficial to have the overhead wires on one side of the street, thus leaving less trees to be "trimmed" by Consumer's Energy.

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

Water & Sewer – No report.

DPW Simmons requested that council consider entering into a Planned Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Cummins Inc. for bi-annual (February and August) inspection and service on two Village generators, for a quoted amount of \$1,440.46.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Klutman, to approve the Planned Equipment Maintenance Agreement with Cummins Inc. as presented, in the amount of \$1,440.46.

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

Public Comments

Per Carroll, the MEDC can provide funds to assist the Village with Master Plan revisions.

Additional Business

Straubel received an e-mail from Maggie Blom with Youth For Understanding USA. Blom is looking for mentors for exchange students. Darby requested that council members contact Straubel if they are interested in volunteering.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk