

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2024

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 Koster; Trustees – Day, Klutman, Mulnix, Talcott, Whorley

Absent: Doll

Guests: Melissa Eldridge – Ionia Conservation District Manager

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

Public Comments - no public comments.

Law Enforcement Report

Council members reviewed Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for the month of April 2024.

Melissa Eldridge, Ionia Conservation District Manager, was in attendance to review the Ionia Recycling Project with council members. Eldridge provided a hand-out for council's reference, and answered various questions about the project.

Eldridge explained that 2022 changes in Solid Waste Legislative Part 115 define that by 2029, Michigan counties will have a 30% waste diversion rate, followed by 40% by 2035. To achieve these requirements, Ionia County (current population 67,000), will need four recycling drop-off facilities strategically placed so that rural residents have access within 10 miles. Eldridge currently has commitments from Muir, Belding, and Portland. She is looking to establish the fourth site in the Saranac area. Council members discussed possible locations in and around Saranac. Eldridge thanked council for their consideration and potential leads.

Council members reviewed a Resolution to accept contract #24-5165 with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the Main Street Resurfacing Project, and to designate Village Officials to sign said contract.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Whorley, to adopt the Resolution to accept Contract #24-5165 with MDOT for the Main Street Resurfacing Project, and to designate Village Officials to sign the contract as presented.

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

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Talcott, to approve the final pay application (less retainage) submitted by Grand River Excavation for the Scheid Park Improvements Project, in the amount of \$132,435.72.

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

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Day, to approve pay application #1 submitted by Grand River Excavation for the Church Street Reconstruction Project, in the amount of \$97,614.

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

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Whorley, to re-appoint Eva Maile as Tenant Commissioner on the Saranac Housing Commission Board and as a Director on the Saranac Non-Profit Housing Corporation Board, retroactive to 5/1/24 and expiring 5/1/29, per 4/16/24 letter from Angela Stephens, Executive Director of the Saranac Housing Commission.

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

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Talcott, to accept the minutes of the April 8, 2024 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to accept the Treasurer's Report of April 30, 2024. All yeas.

Darby inquired about the status of Village ARPA funds totaling \$139,558. Per Straubel, in April of 2022, council adopted a resolution to designate the funds toward replacement and/or rehabilitation of utility infrastructure. To date, the funds have not been used. Straubel further explained that the financial position amongst Village funds has changed since 2022. The Village applied for a \$250,000 grant (one half of anticipated street cost) two years in a row, for the reconstruction of Church Street, but was unsuccessful. Due to the condition of Church Street, the Village Council decided to move forward with the Church Street project in 2024, using General Fund reserves of approximately \$500,000. Due to this fact, Straubel is recommending that the ARPA funds be redesignated to Local Street, for reconstruction of Church Street, thereby reducing the impact on General Fund reserves.

Council members agreed with this rationale. Straubel will confirm that the Village is able to redesignate ARPA funds and if so, will prepare a resolution for council's approval at the June 10th council meeting.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Talcott, to approve the Accounts Payable of May 13, 2024, in the amount of \$541,509.86.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report of Services for April 2024 was reviewed.

Council members received for review, a copy of the Planning Commission's May 1st regular meeting.

The Planning Commission will be holding a Public Hearing on May 15th regarding a Special Use Permit application submitted by the new owner of 100 Main Street, to operate a camper parts and repair facility.

Committee Reports

Budget – no report.

Personnel – no report.

Public Safety – no report.

Parks & Recreation – no report.

Streets

Whorley inquired about the alleyway between 51 and 63 Bridge Street. Per DPW Koster, Mitch Grieves is working with Glen Fountain and the Library on a plan for maintenance free landscaping.

Buildings & Grounds – no report.

Water & Sewer

Per DPW Koster, the Scada System is currently being installed.

Public Comments – no public comments.

Additional Business

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Straubel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Becky Straubel,
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk