

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 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, Koster; Trustees – Doll, Talcott, Whorley
Absent: Day, Mulnix, Klutman
Guests: None

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

Public Comments – none.

Law Enforcement Report

Council members reviewed Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for the month of May 2024. Council members inquired about the low number of incidents reported for May. Straubel will research, and report back to council.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Doll, to approve the release of retainage in the amount of \$32,538.99 to Grand River Excavation, for the Scheid Park Improvements Project.
Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Talcott, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – Day, Klutman, Mulnix.

Discussion was had regarding the timeframe of the Church Street Reconstruction project. Koster reported that Grand River Excavation said the project will be completed by July 4th.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to approve pay application #2 submitted by Grand River Excavation for the Church Street Reconstruction Project, in the amount of \$132,393.92.
Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Talcott, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – Day, Klutman, Mulnix.

Darby informed council members of the remaining requirements to establish a Social District in downtown Saranac, one of which is a motion by the Village Council, to adopt the Social District and its boundaries.

Motion was made by Talcott, supported by Whorley, to adopt a Social District, with boundaries identified in “red” on the attached map, as follows: beginning at the northwest corner of Division St and Irv Taylor Alley, then north, then west, then north again to Main St, then east to the northwest corner of Bridge St and Main St, then north to just beyond the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Trail (FMGRVT), then southwest, then northwest, then north, then east to the south edge of the Grand River, then following the south edge of the Grand River to the northeast side of Bridge St, then south to just beyond the FMGRVT, then east to the northeast property line of 31 E Main St, then south to the southeast property line of 80 N Bridge St (Social House), then west to the southwest property line of 80 N Bridge St (Social House), then south to the northeast corner of Bridge St and Mill St, then west to the point of beginning; and with Commons Areas within said boundaries, identified in “green” on the attached map; and with two licensed liquor establishments, identified with a “star” and in “yellow” on the attached map, as the American Legion and Social House.
Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Talcott, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – Day, Klutman, Mulnix.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Talcott, to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2024 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to accept the Treasurer's Report of May 31, 2024. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Talcott, to approve the Accounts Payable of June 10, 2024, in the amount of \$271,632.09.

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

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

Council members received for review, a copy of the Planning Commission's May 15th Public Hearing minutes.

Committee Reports

Budget – no report.

Personnel – no report.

Public Safety – no report.

Parks & Recreation

Koster informed council members that community members and local businesses have communicated that they are willing to donate time and/or material to the construction of 8 new dugouts for the ballfields at Scheid Park. Council members concurred to assist with the project if needed.

Koster informed council members that one of the trees that the village planted after Thompsons donated property to the village for Scheid Park, is dead. Koster received a quote for replacement of the tree, in the amount of \$600.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Talcott, to replace the dead tree as a one-time courtesy.

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

Straubel informed council members that a Ribbon-cutting Ceremony for the Scheid Park Improvements project is scheduled for Monday, August 12th at 6:00 p.m. Straubel is working with Fleis & VandenBrink on the details.

Streets

Darby reported that she, Straubel and Koster met with Village Attorney Jim Doezema, regarding the unresolved topic of speed limits in the Village of Saranac. Recent amendments to ACT 1949 PA 300, have simplified the process of establishing speed limits. Straubel has requested that Fleis & VandenBrink conduct a speed study on Bridge Street, from the south side of the of the bridge over the Grand River, to the north village limits, traveling both north and south. More details on this topic will follow as it develops.

Per Koster, Meadow Valley Lawncare & Landscape has been hired by the owners of 51 and 63 Bridge Street, to revamp the landscape in the alleyway between the two properties.

Buildings & Grounds – no report.

Water & Sewer

Koster reported on an upgrade to the ArcGIS software, from static to live. This upgrade along with a complete reinstall of the system (required due to new computer), will cost approximately \$2,000. The upgrade will allow Koster to enter lead and copper information and bench locations as well, with all information being in real-time as opposed to being static (updated periodically).

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to approve of an upgrade to the ArcGIS software, as well as a total reinstall of the software for an amount not to exceed \$3,000.
Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Talcott, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – Day, Klutman, Mulnix.

Public Comments – none.

Additional Business

Darby reported on the status of wireless service in downtown Saranac. The project is stalled at the moment because a tower location has not been established. Koster made the suggestion of installing 3 towers and bounce them off each other, if height and clear pathways are an issue.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Becky Straubel,
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk