VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2026

The Saranac Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Darby at 7:02 p.m. at the Saranac Village Office, 27 N Bridge Street.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Darby, Straubel; Trustees – Day, Klutman, Whorley, Talcott (arrived at 7:17 p.m.)
Absent: DPW Koster, Mulnix
Guests: Deputy Alec Stewart

Motion was made by Day, supported by Whorley, 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 October 2026.

Deputy Alec Stewart was in attendance to provide council members with an update on Village law enforcement items of interest.

Various questions were asked by council members and answered by Deputy Stewart.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Day, to accept minutes of the October 12, 2026 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Council members reviewed and discussed the proposed Agreement between the Village of Saranac and the City of Ionia for Dial-A-Ride Services from October 1, 2026 through October 1, 2027, in the amount of $12,000.

The Saranac Housing Commission has entered into an Agreement with the City of Ionia for Dial-A-Ride services for the same time period for $10,000, and Boston Township as well for $8,000.

Motion was made by Day, supported by Whorley, to accept the Agreement between the Village of Saranac and the City of Ionia for Dial-A-Ride Services from October 1, 2026 through October 1, 2027, in the amount of $12,000.
Roll call vote: yeas – Day, Klutman, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – Mulnix, Talcott.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to accept the Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2026. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Day, supported by Talcott, to approve the Accounts Payable of November 9, 2026, in the amount of $139,031.63.
Roll call vote: yeas – Day, Klutman, Whorley, Talcott, Darby; nays – none; absent – Mulnix.

The Zoning Administrator's Report of Services for October 2026 was reviewed.

Council members reviewed the October 14, 2026 Planning Commission Regular Meeting and Public Hearing minutes.

Day reported that the Planning Commission approved the Special Use Permit and Application to Operate an Adult-Use Recreational Marihuana Establishment at 9 Main Street, submitted by Mark Culmer (CHO), with the condition that a log must be kept of when filtration has been changed per manufacturers recommendation, for any system that requires filtration.

Committee Reports

Budget – No report

Personnel

Darby reported that Derek Brown has been hired as a part-time DPW employee. He starts this week.

Public Safety – No report

Parks & Recreation – No report

Streets

Straubel reported on the Rural Task Force (RTF) meeting that she and Todd Richter, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineer, attended today. The outcome was favorable for the Village. Additional funding for the 2028 Mill Street project was approved, as costs have increased since the original estimate. Another Village project, Vosper Street, from Orchard Street to Mill Street, was put on the Illustrative List for 2030.

Straubel also reported that she accepted a nomination to be the Cities/Villages voting representative for the RTF at the county level.

Buildings & Grounds – No report

Water & Sewer – No report

Public Comments – None

Additional Information/Business

Council members reviewed a report from Lawrence (Shelby) Engel, on completed and ongoing IT projects.

Straubel pointed out that Shelby assisted the Village by working with Peerless Midwest to research and arrange for SIM cards for the new SCADA system.

The Village will be seeking applications for the position of Trustee on the Village Council, as Adam Doll's 4-year term expires this month. Straubel will post the opening on the Village website and Facebook page.

Incumbents Mark Talcott and Jaye Whorley were both reelected for another 4-year term expiring in November 2030. They will take the Oath of Office at the December 14, 2026 council meeting.

Darby encouraged council members to review committee assignments prior to the December 14, 2026 council meeting. Any changes will be made at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Becky Straubel,

Village Treasurer/Deputy Clerk