

VILLAGE OF SARANAC  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 19, 2012

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 – Hendrick, Klutman, Mackey, Whorley, DPW Bowen

Absent: None

Guests: Doug Borup, Greg Grieves, Dale & Nancy Miller, Tim Simmons

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Klutman, to approve the Regular Agenda. All yeas.

Public Comments

Dale Miller, Republican candidate for the office of Ionia County Sheriff, introduced himself and his wife Nancy. Miller highlighted his qualifications and answered questions from council members.

Greg Grieves, a Saranac Lions Club member, requested that council seek ways to promote wildlife in the Nature Park. His suggestions for doing so, included not mowing the large open area inside the trail loop, planting more trees and possibly putting up a nature blind where people could sit and observe wildlife. The Lions Club would like to provide the trees.

Bowen responded to Grieves suggestions. Last spring, the DPW began mowing a narrow strip next to the trail loop, allowing the rest to grow naturally. Bowen indicated that there should be research into the type of trees that would grow best in a floodplain and that it may be a year before we are ready to plant.

A Public Hearing on grant applications for land acquisition and playground equipment was opened at 7:15 p.m.

Straubel provided an explanation of the Parks Committee recommendations regarding the two grant applications. The projected cost for projects is \$160,000.00. The committee's recommendation is to pledge a local match of 26% of the land acquisition costs and 30% of the improvement costs (playground equipment).

No Public Comment was heard.

The Public Hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Whorley, to approve a Resolution to authorize the submission of two grant applications, pledging a minimum local match of 26% of the acquisition costs and 30% of the improvement costs (see attached resolution).

Roll call vote: yeas – Hendrick, Klutman, Mackey, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

Doug Borup, representing the Saranac Community Club (SCC), addressed the council regarding banner poles. Borup provided a handout (see attached) answering questions asked by council, when he first introduced the topic. If given approval from council, the SCC will begin fundraising for this project, which they estimate to cost approximately \$8,000. The suggested location of the poles is on Bridge Street, north of Main Street, near the rail bed. The poles would accommodate banners that non-profit organizations could use to advertise events.

Bowen inquired as to who would be responsible for putting up and taking down the banners. Borup suggested that a licensed and insured company be responsible for this task.

Mackey raised questions regarding zoning compliance. Borup will contact Jeanne Vandersloot, Zoning Administrator.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Hendrick, to support the SCC in their efforts of fundraising for and installing banner poles, as discussed. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to reappoint Becky Ann Straubel as Village Treasurer and Deputy Clerk and Roberta Jo Smith as Village Clerk, with two year terms to expire the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of March 2014. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Whorley, to accept the minutes of the February 20, 2012 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mackey, to approve the Treasurer's Report of February 29, 2012. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Hendrick, to approve the Accounts Payable of March 19, 2012 in the amount of \$67,329.76.

Roll call vote: yeas – Hendrick, Klutman, Mackey, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

Council reviewed the financial results for fiscal year ending 2/29/12. Straubel provided notes in reference to the budget versus actual numbers.

Council reviewed proposed budget amendments.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Klutman, to accept the budget amendments for fiscal year ending 2/29/12 as presented.

Roll call vote: yeas – Hendrick, Klutman, Mackey, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

The Zoning Administrator's report was reviewed.

Klutman reported on the Planning Commission's March meeting, at which commission members recommended adoption of an ordinance to amend Zoning Ordinance language.

A Public Hearing will be held April 4, 2012 in concurrence with the Planning Commission's Regular meeting, to hear comments on the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments.

### Committee Reports

#### Public Safety

Mackey reported on the monthly stats provided by Deputy Charon.

Bowen addressed the subject of hunting within village limits. Council concurred that Bowen should research ordinances that other communities have adopted.

Darby reported on new fire works regulations and suggested that council may also want to consider an ordinance regarding the sale of fire works in the village.

Simmons reported that the first three months of 2012 have been very busy for the Fire Department.

#### Budget

Fiscal year 2011/2012 financial results and budget amendments were reviewed and approved earlier this evening. The Budget Committee has nothing further to report.

#### Parks & Recreation

The committee met with Aaron Catlin of Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering to discuss proposed grant applications that were approved by Resolution earlier this evening.

Bowen reported that a Boy Scout, looking to complete a project for Eagle Scout status, would like to build a gazebo near the well house off of Parsonage Street. Bowen has researched various gazebo packages. Council members discussed options at length.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Klutman, to purchase a gazebo package not to exceed \$5,200, to be built by Owen Field, a Boy Scout with Troop 71.

Roll call vote: yeas – Hendrick, Klutman, Mackey, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

Skylights will be installed in Scheid Park restrooms soon. Bowen is researching replacement faucets and vandal proof soap dispensers.

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

#### Streets

Spring Cleanup is scheduled to begin Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Bowen is currently working with the engineers on budgeted street projects.

Klutman requested that the DPW repaint the crosswalk at Bridge and Church Street.

#### Water & Sewer

Bowen reported that touch read meters are now installed in all homes and businesses.

Personnel – No report.

Additional Business – None.

Public Comments – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk