

VILLAGE OF SARANAC  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 8, 2012

The Saranac Village Council Regular Meeting was called to order by President Darby at 7:01 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, Simmons, Whorley, DPW Bowen

Absent: None

Guests: Terry Frewen – Ionia County Economic Alliance (ICEA)  
Jennifer Wangler – The Right Place  
Tim Simmons

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

Public Comments – None.

Terry Frewen, an ICEA Representative, provided council members with an explanation of the function of the ICEA. The ICEA recently partnered with The Right Place. He introduced Jennifer Wangler, a representative of The Right Place, who explained how they have combined resources, to assist local businesses. Frewen and Wangler requested that the council continue their financial support. The ICEA has an annual budget of \$106,000, 35% of which is funded by local governments, the rest by private businesses. A list of investors can be found on their website at [www.icea-mi.org](http://www.icea-mi.org)

The ICEA will hold their annual breakfast on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 a.m., at the Ionia County ISD. Council members are invited to attend.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Simmons, to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2012 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Whorley, to approve the Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2012. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to approve the Accounts Payable of October 8, 2012 in the amount of \$100,401.22.

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

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Simmons to contribute \$500 to the ICEA, per their letter of request dated July 1, 2012.

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

The Zoning Administrator's report was reviewed.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

Village Council members were given a deadline of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, to complete their review of the draft of the updated Village of Saranac Master Plan. Any corrections should be turned into the village office by this date.

### Committee Reports

#### Parks & Recreation

Supplemental information for both the Michigan Recreation Passport Grant and the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Applications were submitted to the State of Michigan by the September 21<sup>st</sup> due date, in hopes of gaining additional points.

Bowen shared that two Eagle Scout candidates are looking for projects. Council members shared a few suggestions, but could not come up with anything definitive.

Scheid Park restrooms will be closed prior to October 31<sup>st</sup> and the Nature Park will be closed prior to November 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Public Safety

Darby reported that Keene Township signed the Amended and Restated Emergency Medical Services and Fire Protection Agreement with the Saranac Community Volunteer Fire Department.

Mackey inquired about the status of the fire truck bids. Per Darby, the specifications are still being finalized.

Personnel – No report.

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

#### Water & Sewer

Bowen reported that during the flushing of water mains, the residents at 61 Summit Street experienced a surge in water pressure inside their home, which created a rupture in the tank of their 14 year old water heater. The resident has requested a reimbursement from the village for the purchase of a new water heater, which cost approximately \$500.00. Council discussed and concurred that after receipt of proof of purchase of the new water heater, and signing of an agreement releasing the village from further liability, the village will reimburse the homeowner one half of the cost of the new water heater. Council members did not feel it was appropriate to reimburse all of the cost, due to the age and therefore depreciated value of the unit that was damaged.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mackey, that upon receipt of proof of purchase and signing of agreement releasing the village from further liability, to reimburse one half of the cost of the new water heater to the residents at 61 Summit Street.

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

#### Streets

The Streets Committee met with Todd Richter and he is in the process of updating the village's Street Capital Improvements Plan which will assist the Streets Committee with establishing their 2013/2014 street budget.

Council revisited the topic of replacing the three wooden memorial benches that are on Bridge Street, with benches that match those that have been purchased for the parks and trails. It was suggested that the original purchasers of the memorial benches be asked if they would consider paying for the engraving on the new bench (approximately \$100 per board) or if they would like a plaque similar to the original one, recessed into a board of the bench. Straubel and Bowen will research the topic further.

#### Budget

Straubel requested that committee chairs submit their budgets for the 2013/2014 fiscal year, by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Public Comments – None.

#### Additional Business

Darby reported that Straubel completed and submitted to the State of Michigan, by the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, the Certification of Accountability and Transparency portion of the Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP). This year's requirements included a projected budget report, in addition to a Citizen's Guide and Performance Dashboard.

Simmons reported that she has received inquiries/complaints regarding a downed tree that has not been removed from a resident's front yard. Straubel will contact Jeanne Vandersloot, to determine if this is considered a zoning violation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk