

VILLAGE OF SARANAC  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
July 14, 2014

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 – Doll, Klutman, Mackey, Simmons, Whorley, DPW Simmons

Absent: None

Guests: Todd Richter, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering  
Alec Doll, Boy Scout Troop 71

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

Public Comments

Alec Doll, member of Boy Scout Troop 71, stated that he was in attendance to observe the council meeting, as a requirement for earning a merit badge.

Todd Richter of Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering (F&V) was in attendance to recap the bids received for the Street Maintenance Project and the Summit Street Project and to discuss F&V's Recommendation of Award for the two projects.

Two bids were received for the Street Maintenance Project, which was bid in conjunction with the City of Ionia's street project. F&V recommends awarding the bid to Pavement Restoration, who was the low bidder at \$5,400.00. Richter's estimate for the project was \$10,200.00.

Three bids were received for the Summit Street Project, which Richter had estimated at \$80,615.00. The low bid was received from Michigan Paving & Materials, Co., in the amount of \$90,339.20. Richter stated that factors contributing to the higher than anticipated bid, are the cost of asphalt and restoration. The time of year could also be a factor, as this is a busy time for paving contractors.

The 2014/2015 budget for the two projects is \$104,000.00, which includes engineering costs for the Summit Street Project in the amount of \$8,100.00. The low bids for the two projects total \$95,739.20, which does not include engineering costs of \$8,100.00. The two low bids, plus engineering costs, totals \$103,839.20, which is just under the budgeted amount of \$104,000.00.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mackey, to accept the low bid from Pavement Restoration in the amount of \$5,400, for the Street Maintenance Project.

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

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mackey, to accept the low bid from Michigan Paving & Materials, Co. in the amount of \$90,339.20, for the Summit Street Project.

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

Richter will instruct contractors to avoid road closures for projects on or around August 23<sup>rd</sup>, due to BridgeFest.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to accept the minutes of the June 9, 2014 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mackey, supported by Simmons, to approve the Treasurer's Report of June 30, 2014. All yeas.

Discussion was held regarding various Accounts Payable items.

The village received a letter from WOW, stating that the village office will no longer be a drop off site for WOW equipment, due to low return volume. The village has been receiving internet service free of charge, in exchange for being a drop off site. Consequently, WOW will begin billing the village for internet service.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Doll, to approve the Accounts Payable of July 14, 2014, in the amount of \$80,875.83.

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

The Zoning Administrator's report was reviewed.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

#### Committee Reports

##### Public Safety

Council members reviewed Deputy Charon's June Status Report and "Tip of the Month".

The Public Safety Committee met with Ionia County Sheriff Dale Miller, to begin discussions regarding the village's contract with the Sheriff's Office, which expires 2/28/15.

Budget – No Report.

##### Parks & Recreation

Straubel updated council members on the status of the purchase of property at 113 N. Bridge Street. A closing has been tentatively scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup>, and is dependent upon the DNR's approval of the property appraisal and purchase price offer.

Straubel informed council that the village received a DNR grant in the amount of \$13,600.00, for a walkway connecting Scheid Park to the Rail Trail. Straubel further stated that F & V's estimate of the project did not account for prevailing wages, which must be paid if federal funds are used. F & V prepared a new estimate for the project, which Straubel has forwarded to the DNR, requesting a revised grant amount based on the new estimate.

Council discussed a request from an individual to plant a tree with a memory plaque in Scheid Park, in honor of a family member. After much discussion, council members concurred not to allow memorial tree planting on village property, at this time.

Mackey inquired if the pavilions are consistently being rented at Scheid Park. Straubel confirmed that they are. Mackey further inquired about the possibility of raising the rental fee for non-residents. Straubel suggested discussing this option, during next year's budget preparation.

#### Buildings & Grounds

The fire truck is back from Florida, per DPW Simmons. Darby informed council members that it was a good thing that Simmons (in Fire Chief capacity) went to Florida to inspect the truck. He found several items that needed to be addressed and/or repaired before bringing the truck back to Saranac. Also, an engineer at the repair facility in Florida confirmed that the box of the truck did need to be replaced, not just repaired, or the truck would never have been the same.

Darby has not been impressed with the insurance company's handling of the fire truck claim. She has requested reimbursement via email, for the amount we have been billed to date, but has not received a response. She will be contacting the claims supervisor to inquire about the payment status and lack of return communication.

Property at 39 Bridge Street is going to be sold via online auction, with bids being accepted July 22<sup>nd</sup> through 6:00 p.m. July 25<sup>th</sup>, at [www.BigRedAuctions.com](http://www.BigRedAuctions.com).

The fire department roof has been repaired, per DPW Simmons.

Streets – No report.

#### Water & Sewer

Per DPW Simmons, the new brush hog is working great for mowing the banks of the sewer lagoons.

Whorley was approached by a village resident who lives on DeWitt Street, claiming that their water pressure is considerably lower than it used to be. DPW Simmons stated that the village has not done anything that would affect water pressure. Whorley will pass that information on to the resident.

DPW Simmons reported that the installation of a yard drain on Weeks Street has solved the water drainage issue.

#### Personnel

Darby stated that the Personnel Committee has completed its six month performance review of DPW Simmons and will soon meet with him to discuss the details.

#### Additional Business

Darby inquired about what can be done regarding the washout on Cloverlane and Vosper. DPW Simmons stated that the DPW typically sweeps it back. An alternate option would be to plant grass in that area. Darby suggested that it is in need of being swept back again.

Mackey stated that there have been vehicles racing on Vosper Street. Darby suggested she contact Deputy Charon and request heavier patrol of the area.

Straubel presented council members with a plaque that the Village of Saranac, along with the City of Ionia, Hoffman Bros, Inc. and Prein & Newhof Engineering received from the American Public Works Association, Michigan Chapter.

The plaque is for the 2014 Project of the Year Award, for the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Rail-Trail. Straubel and DPW Simmons will find a prominent place in the village office, to display the plaque.

Public Comments – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk