

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2018

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, Smith, Straubel, DPW Simmons; Trustees – Doll, Klutman (left at 7:45 p.m.), Mulnix, Ricket, Simmons, Whorley

Absent: None

Guests: Allison Willis, David Bollone

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

Public Comments

Allison Willis was present to discuss with council members, her idea of opening a farmer's market in Saranac. Willis provided council with an outline of information she has gathered thus far (see attached), such as potential locations, type of vendors to be sought, vendor contracts, licensing and start-up funding for the project. Council discussed several of these items in detail with Willis.

Council was receptive to the idea and advised Willis to contact Jeanne Vandersloot, Village Zoning Administrator, for guidance in the process. Council also requested that Willis contact neighboring communities with successful farmer's markets, to inquire about their process.

Dave Bollone, representing the Saranac Youth Baseball League (SYBL), updated council members on league activities. Bollone reported that in 2017, SYBL had 27 teams consisting of 287 players. Bollone noted that this is quite an accomplishment, given the fact that Scheid Park has only 3 fields to utilize. Comparatively, Ionia has 15 fields and fewer participants.

Bollone requested approval from council to place a 10' X 10' shed adjacent to the batting cage at Scheid Park, to house baseball equipment. Currently, coaches haul the batting cage net back and forth to its storage place, which is a good distance away from the cage. Being that the net is heavy and cumbersome, a storage shed near the batting cage would provide a practical solution.

Bollone shared with council, that he expects to accumulate adequate funds in the next couple years, to install another field at Scheid Park. This year the league plans to add diamond dust to 2 of the fields and repair gates.

April 28th is opening day of baseball season this year. Bollone expects a very large turn-out, as in past years. DPW Simmons confirmed that park restrooms will be open by that date.

Bollone stated that parking continues to be a struggle and council acknowledged that many discussions have been had regarding the situation.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Mulnix, to allow the Saranac Youth Baseball League to place a 10' X 10' shed adjacent to the batting cage at Scheid park to house baseball equipment. A building permit must first be obtained from Ionia County, if applicable. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mulnix at 7:35 p.m., supported by Simmons, to open the Public Hearing to receive comments on the Village of Saranac 5-Year Park & Recreation Draft Plan. All yeas.

No public comments were offered on the draft plan.

Motion was made by Mulnix at 7:40 p.m., supported by Ricket, to close the Public Hearing regarding the 5-Year Park & Recreation Draft Plan. All yeas.

Council reviewed the draft and discussed various aspects of the proposed plan.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Ricket, to pass a Resolution (see attached) to adopt the Village of Saranac 5-Year Park & Recreation Plan 2018-2022.

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

Motion was made by Whorley at 7:50 p.m., supported by Doll, to open the Public Hearing to set the 2018 property tax millage and approve the budget for fiscal year March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019. All yeas.

No public comments were offered on the proposed budget and millage rate to support it.

Motion was made by Mulnix at 7:53 p.m., supported by Doll, to close the Public Hearing to set the 2018 property tax millage and approve the 2018/2019 budget. All yeas.

Various questions were asked and answered regarding the proposed 2018/2019 budget.

Council members reviewed additional reports provided by Straubel as follows: Reserve Balances (actuals & estimates) by Year and Fund from February 2004 through February 2019, Net Income/Loss Estimates for Fiscal Years Ending 2/28/18 and 2/28/19, and Projected Vehicle/Equipment Replacement Timeline and Cost.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to approve property tax mills for 2018 of 13.9321 and to add a 1% Administrative Fee to property tax bills.

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

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Doll, to approve the budget for fiscal year March 1, 2018 through February 28, 2019 in the amount of \$1,379,019.00, as presented.

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

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2018 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Ricket, supported by Simmons, to accept the Treasurer's Report of January 31, 2018. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Whorley, to approve the Accounts Payable of February 19, 2018, in the amount of \$87,420.12.

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

The Zoning Administrators Report for January 2018 was reviewed.

The Planning Commission did not meet this month.

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation

DPW Simmons discussed the potential for an improved trail connector from Scheid Park to the Rail Trail. The area is already being used as such by pedestrians and bikers.

DPW Simmons suggested that council may want to consider property located north of Depot Street and southwest of the Nature Park entrance, as over-flow parking for park users. The property is owned by the Village.

Streets

Council members reviewed John VanTholen's historical report of spring clean-up costs since 2004. VanTholen is proposing a cost for Granger's 2018 spring clean-up services not to exceed \$2,500. Council members concurred that the amount is fair and equitable, especially given the fact that Village assistance will not be required as much this year. Village employees will provide fork lift assistance if needed, for larger items/piles.

Spring Clean-up is scheduled for May 22nd this year.

DPW Simmons inquired if the Streets Committee has a priority list of streets to be chip and fog/sealed this year. Committee members concurred that they would like Simmons to get back to them with his recommendation.

DPW Simmons informed council members of difficulties he's been having with people ignoring "no parking" warning notices he's placed on their vehicles. Council concurred that towing should be the next step after the car has been cleared by an officer.

Discussion was held regarding the status of speed limit signs in the Village. Straubel will contact Jim Doezeema, Village Attorney, for an update on the topic.

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

Water & Sewer

DPW Simmons informed council that there will most likely be some sewer repair/maintenance items identified as part of recent SAW grant activities. Cleaning and televising of the sanitary sewers will be complete by the end of February. The contractor will provide the Village and Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering with a report of their findings, at which time the Village may or may not be required to address the repair/maintenance items immediately.

Public Safety

Council members received an Incident Report for January 2018 from Deputy Bindus, as well as January stats for all Ionia County officers while on Saranac Village patrol.

Chief Simmons informed council, that in an attempt to spread out call volume, fire department members that live further away, may spend the night at the department when they are on call.

Budget

The Budget Committee met and recommended the budget that was approved tonight after the Public Hearing that was held to receive comments on said budget.

Personnel

Darby reported that annual employee reviews have been completed.

Council members concurred on changing the title on page 33 of the Employee Handbook from "Volunteer Firefighter Duties" to "Employee Firefighting Duties."

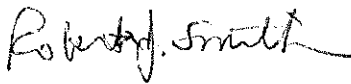
Public Comments – None.

Additional Business

Darby directed council's attention to the spreadsheet provided by Straubel entitled "Projected Vehicle/Equipment Replacement" for years 2018 through 2037. Replacement of the Village 2001 Ford F350 is scheduled for this year and is included in the budget.

Whorley will chair the March 12th council meeting, as Darby will not be in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roberta Jo Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk