

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 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, Mulnix, Ricket, Simmons, Whorley

Absent: None

Guests: Doug & Connie Thompson, Todd Richter, Kerry Fountain, Pat Essig, Jami Voshell

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

Public Comments – None.

Council reviewed a Resolution of gratitude for, and acceptance of, 3.5 acres of vacant land donated to the Village by Doug & Connie Thompson. The donated land is to be used for expansion of Scheid Park facilities.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Mulnix, to adopt said Resolution of Gratitude & Acceptance of Vacant Land Donated by Doug & Connie Thompson.

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

President Darby presented Doug & Connie Thompson with a framed copy of the Resolution, signed by members of the Village Council.

Todd Richter, Fleis and VandenBrink engineer, was in attendance to provide council with information regarding the Rural Task Force process and potential street funding assistance, as well as updates on Village projects (SAW, Bridge Street and Trailhead).

Darby thanked Richter for providing council with project updates and for his due diligence in regard to the Bridge Street project.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Klutman, to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2018 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

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

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Ricket, to approve the Accounts Payable of November 12, 2018, in the amount of \$88,560.18.

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

The Zoning Administrators Report for October 2018 was reviewed.

The Planning Commission did not meet.

Ricket reported that Bob Vreeland resigned from the Planning Commission, leaving four members on the seven-member board. Straubel will post a notice on the Village Facebook page that the Planning Commission is accepting applications for three vacant positions.

Council reviewed a proposal submitted by Main Street Planning Company to update the Village of Saranac's 2012 Master Plan.

Per Darby, council could reaffirm the 2012 Master Plan with no changes or amendments, by adoption of a resolution. Or, council could accept the proposal submitted by Main Street Planning in the amount of \$5,500 to create a new and separate planning document to address certain areas in the Village needing a fresh planning perspective based on current conditions.

Council members discussed the pros and cons of both options.

Motion was made by Klutman, supported by Mulnix, to approve the proposal from Main Street Planning in the amount of \$5,500, to update the Village Master Plan by way of creating a new and separate planning document to address certain areas in the Village needing a fresh planning perspective based on current conditions, as well as reaffirming the 2012 Master Plan. Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Klutman, Mulnix, Simmons, Whorley, Darby; nays – Ricket; absent – none.

President Darby reported on her meeting with Kerry Fountain, Saranac Library Director. A property ownership issue surfaced as a result of the library pursuing District Library status. The library building sits on three parcels of property, two of which are owned by the Village. One of the parcels was purchased by the Village in 1945 for \$1 and the other in 1980 for \$15,000. In order for the library to become a District Library, the Village would have to quit claim, sell, or lease the property to them.

Council members heard from library personnel present, and discussed the three options for resolution of the ownership issue.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Simmons, to enter into a lease agreement with the Saranac Library in the amount of \$1.00, for property owned by the Village and occupied by the library. Straubel will prepare a lease document for review and approval by Jim Doezeema, Village attorney. Upon Doezeema's approval, council authorizes Darby to sign said lease agreement. Roll call vote: yeas – Doll, Klutman, Mulnix, Ricket, Simmons, Whorley, Darby; nays – none; absent – none.

Council discussed property for sale at 60 S. Bridge Street and concurred not to pursue purchase of the property.

Council discussed a potential property swap with owners of 46 Dewitt Street and concurred that they would be willing to swap property, as the transaction would present no detriment to the Village. However, council concurred not to share in any costs associated with the transaction, as there is no benefit to the Village in swapping property.

Council reviewed a letter of support for the KSA (Knowledge, Skills, Assessment) Talent Consortium. Darby explained that Robert Johnson (Saranac Robotics) is applying for a grant to assist facilities in working together to train students in technology related fields. A requirement of the grant application process is to show that the community is in favor of the project. Council members expressed support for the program and the letter drafted on their behalf.

Raymond Passchier, organizer of the 2018 Dirty Thirty Bike Race inquired whether March 30th is an acceptable date for the 2019 event. Council concurred that they see no conflict with the proposed date.

Darby informed council that dental and vision insurance rates for 2019 are not increasing.

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Klutman, to renew Ameritas (vision) and Delta Dental (dental) insurance policies for one year, effective January 1, 2019.

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

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation

DPW Simmons reported that one of the cameras in the Nature Park aided in identifying an individual responsible for recent vandalism.

Streets

Klutman reported that the committee met with Todd Richter, Fleis & VandenBrink engineer to review future street projects and to discuss Bridge Street and Trailhead projects.

Buildings & Grounds

Darby recommended that DPW Simmons put together a proposal for the potential purchase of a building/property for relocation of the DPW.

Water & Sewer

Doll reported that the committee met and reviewed the DEQ's evaluation of the Village of Saranac's water system and recommendations for continued improvement. The Village has until November 16th to provide the DEQ with a letter outlining plans to address the recommendations. DPW Simmons and Straubel have begun to work on items that can be addressed immediately and will submit a letter of response to the DEQ on or before November 16th.

Public Safety

Council received Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for the month of October 2018.

Budget

Straubel encouraged committees to meet and begin the budgeting process.

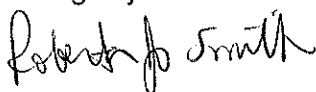
Personnel – No report.

Public Comments – None.

Additional Business

Doll was re-elected as Village Trustee for a 4-year term expiring 11/2022. Although their terms expire this month, Klutman and Ricket were not on the ballot. Klutman stated that he would accept a reappointment and Ricket stated that he will not seek reappointment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.



Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk