

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 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: Deputy Bindus, Barrett Moulter

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

Public Comments

Motion was made by Simmons, supported by Klutman, to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2018 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Mulnix, to accept the Treasurer's Report of September 30, 2018. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Simmons, to approve the Accounts Payable of October 8, 2018, in the amount of \$62,101.48.

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

The Zoning Administrators Report for September 2018 was reviewed.

The Planning Commission (PC) held a Regular meeting on October 2, 2018. Per Ricket, Planning Commission Chair, the Village of Saranac Master Plan is overdue for its 5-year review. Straubel will contact potential Planners for assistance with the review, as LandMark Strategies who assisted with the 2012 Plan, is no longer in business.

Council reviewed a letter submitted to the Village Office on October 8th, regarding the conduct of a PC member at the October 2nd PC meeting. In the letter, the complainant urged the council to investigate potential or perceived ethics violations and take appropriate action.

President Darby attended the October 2nd PC meeting, and therefore provided council members with a recap of events. The topic that resulted in the potential or perceived ethics violation was a prospective buyer's proposal for repurposing the middle school property on Vosper Street.

Ricket stated that the PC meeting was not a hearing, as the complainant stated in the letter. No decisions were made at the October 2nd meeting, as an application had not been submitted.

Ricket also stated that according to business ethics, one board member may have had a contentious view point.

Darby stated that the board member's personal interests and proximity to the middle school property, presents a conflict of interest per Planning Commission Bylaws.

Darby requested council members input on an appropriate course of action.

After lengthy discussion, council members requested that Ricket, as PC Chair, have a conversation with the offending board member and ask him to recuse himself from deliberating and voting on the topic.

Further discussion was given to the proposed use of the middle school building and understanding community needs.

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation

Per DPW Simmons, the portable restrooms will be removed from the Trailhead property by November 1st, as in past years. Council members concurred.

DPW Simmons reported that the Nature Park has recently seen malicious activity in the form of vehicles spinning tires resulting in damage to park grounds.

Darby inquired if the Trailhead project had been rebid. Mulnix reported that the Parks Committed concurred to rebid the project around November 9th, with a bid due date of December 12th and a spring project start date.

Streets

DPW Simmons reported on the Bridge Street project. There are a few items he is not pleased with, that may potentially result in additional costs for the Village. DPW Simmons requested that the Street Committee meet to discuss the issues and determine a course of action.

The Street Committee concurred to meet Monday, October 15th at 6:00 p.m. Todd Richter, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineer will be invited to attend in hopes of rectifying project issues.

Buildings & Grounds

Council revisited the topic of a potential future location for the Department of Public Works. DPW Simmons will contact the owner of the property.

Water & Sewer

DPW Simmons reported that the MDEQ recently drew samples to test for PFAS in the Village water supply. He was told by MDEQ personnel that it could take 5 to 7 weeks to get results.

DPW Simmons also reported that he and Straubel have been gathering data regarding duckweed treatment at the WWTF, for submittal to the MDEQ.

Public Safety

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

Deputy Bindus reported that the Ionia County Sheriff's Office had recently conducted ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training at the Saranac Jr./Sr. High School.

St. Anthony's Church will be hosting the same active shooter training for the general public. Deputy Bindus will provide Straubel with the details as they become available.

Deputy Bindus also reported that his department will be giving away child car seats to those in need. There will be criteria for determining recipients of the car seats.

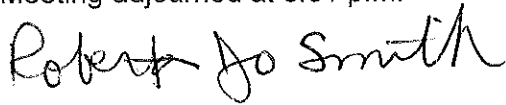
Budget – No report.

Personnel – No report.

Public Comments – None.

Additional Business – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberta Jo Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roberta Jo Smith, Clerk