

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2019

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, Straubel, DPW Simmons; Trustees – Doll, Klutman, Mulnix, Simmons, Whorley

Absent: None

Guests: Kevin Moore, Jana & Jeff Broughton, Mark & Tami Schaafsma, Mike Hooper

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

Public Comments

Kevin Moore of Moore & Company introduced himself and the other guests in attendance, as individuals involved in the proposed purchase of the Harker Middle School building at 234 S Vosper Street. Per Moore, their interest in attending tonight's meeting is in regard to the Village Master Plan Amendment as it relates to density.

Council reviewed Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for June 2019.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Simmons, to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2019 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Klutman, to accept the Treasurer's Report of June 30, 2019. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Mulnix, to approve the Accounts Payable of July 8, 2019, in the amount of \$130,244.14.

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

Klutman provided a recap of the 7/1/19 Planning Commission meeting and Public Hearing on the amendment to the Village Master Plan. There were two village residents in attendance that expressed their preference of individual housing units (removing the existing building) as opposed to repurposing the existing building.

Klutman further reported, that Moore addressed the Planning Commission regarding proposed plans for repurposing the middle school building. He is concerned about the allowable number of units per acre (density), and requested that the Planning Commission revisit this portion of the Master Plan Amendment.

In response to public input received at the Planning Commission meeting, Tim Johnson prepared additional density language for council's review.

Moore expressed that he and the other guests concur that the new density limits proposed by Johnson are very workable.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Simmons, to accept the additional density language found on page 5 of the July 1, 2019 draft Master Plan Amendment. All yeas.

The Planning Commission will review the additional language at their August 7th regular meeting and recommend by majority vote and resolution, that the draft amendment be approved by the Village Council at their August 12th regular meeting.

The Zoning Administrators Report for June 2019 was reviewed.

Council reviewed a memo from Jeanne Vandersloot regarding a Main Street resident's request to place 2 lamp poles in his yard. Section 30.17.17 of the Village Zoning Ordinance was referred to as well. Council concurred to coordinate a time to view the lights at dark, before making a determination to allow or disallow the lighting.

Council reviewed information provided by Village attorney, relative to marijuana establishments. In the best interest of public health, safety and welfare, it is the opinion of the Village attorney that the Village adopt an ordinance to prohibit marijuana establishments. This ensures that the MRA does not issue licenses for marijuana establishments in the Village, in the absence of Village regulations. This will also allow the Village sufficient time to evaluate benefits, challenges and costs of potentially allowing marijuana establishments, as well as review the MRA's emergency rules which are expected to be released soon.

Council reviewed a proposed resolution and ordinance regarding the prohibition of marijuana establishments in the Village of Saranac.

Motion by Mulnix, support by Klutman, to pass Resolution No. 070819, a Resolution to adopt Ordinance No. 104, an Ordinance prohibiting marijuana establishments in the Village of Saranac.

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

Motion by Whorley, support by Simmons, to adopt Ordinance No 104, an Ordinance prohibiting marijuana establishments in the Village of Saranac.

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

Chief Simmons commented that he has already seen an increase in medical related calls involving marijuana use.

Committee Reports

Parks & Recreation

DPW Simmons reported that the Trailhead project is coming along nicely and is still on target to be completed by Bridge Festival.

DPW Simmons made mention of the donations of time and equipment to the Scheid Park ballfield and parking project.

Streets

Straubel reported that bids for the Parsonage Street project will be opened on Monday, July 15th at 3:00 p.m.

DPW Simmons spoke with the owner of 139 Mill Street, who indicated there will be significant advancements in his home improvement project, within the next two weeks.

Buildings & Grounds

DPW Simmons would like to schedule a committee meeting to discuss the roof of the north building at Scheid Park.

Public Safety

Chief Simmons reported that the new grass rig is in service and a consultant has been hired to assist in selling the old grass rig for a 10% commission.

Chief Simmons also reported on a successful boat rescue at the campground on M-21 during recent flood conditions.

Water & Sewer

DPW Simmons reported that due to excessive rain, the sewer lagoons will likely be at capacity by the time we are allowed to discharge again.

Budget – No report.

Personnel – No report.

Council reviewed a letter of thanks and request for continued financial support of the ICEA, in the amount of \$550.00.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Klutman, to pledge \$550.00 in financial support to the Ionia County Economic Alliance for 2019. All yeas.

Public Comments

Mike Hooper joined the meeting to address council about proposed lamp poles at his residence. Council apprised him of the conversation that took place earlier in the meeting.

Additional Business – None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.



Becky A Straubel, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk