

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2017

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 Kurt Bindus

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

Public Comments – None.

Committee Report – Public Safety

Deputy Bindus inquired if council received his August Law Enforcement report. He brought to their attention, that the reports include stats from all ICSD officers who patrolled the Village in August. He believes this provides a more accurate picture of law enforcement activity in the Village and will plan to include them in future reports if council finds this helpful. Council concurred.

Deputy Bindus updated council members on recent and ongoing Zoning violations that he, Straubel and Vandersloot have been working to resolve.

Deputy Bindus inquired if council has recommendations regarding parking issues. According to Village ordinance, law enforcement officers can issue tickets for Zoning violations, due to the fact that they are considered municipal civil infractions. Typically, Vandersloot would issue Zoning violation tickets, but Deputy Bindus is more available to do so, during routine patrol.

Council discussed the on-going challenges with parking in the residential district, as well as potential solutions. Discussions included, but were not limited to, "No Parking from Here to Corner" signage, curbing additions and ordinance modification.

Clarification is needed regarding parking in the Village right-of-way. Straubel will confer with Vandersloot and request that she send violation letters if applicable. Deputy Bindus will remain vigilant of the situation as well.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Simmons, to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2017 Regular Meeting. All yeas.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to approve the Treasurer's Report of August 31, 2017. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed.

DPW Simmons inquired when to have the portable restroom at the Boat Launch Park removed. Council members agreed on a removal date of November 1st or shortly thereafter.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Whorley, to approve the Accounts Payable of September 11, 2017, in the amount of \$64,577.34.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report for August 2017 was reviewed.

Per Ricket, the Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday, September 13th to hold a Public Hearing on an application for a Special Use Permit for a 2nd story residential apartment at 51 N Bridge Street.

Committee Reports

Public Safety

See report on page 1.

Budget – No report.

Personnel

Per Darby, the committee met and discussed the DPW's request for a more flexible winter vacation policy. The committee recommends that the Employee Handbook be revised to allow each DPW employee to take up to 1 week of vacation during the months of November through March. A vetted and insured replacement must be available to fill in for the employee who is on vacation. Council members concurred with the committee's recommendation. Darby will provide Straubel with the exact language for the handbook revision.

Darby also reported that the committee recommends renewing the current employee Health Insurance Plan on 12/1/17. The renewal premium for the existing plan will increase by approximately \$3,562 annually, or approximately 10%. Two plan options were provided to the committee for review; one resulting in a \$2,133 annual increase, the other in a \$850 annual increase over the current premium. Per Darby, the two options provided would substantially reduce employee benefits and increase deductibles, hence the committee's recommendation to renew the existing plan.

Motion was made by Doll, supported by Simmons, to renew the existing employee Health Insurance Plan with Priority Health, effective 12/1/17, for an approximate annual increase in premium of \$3,562.00.

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

Parks & Recreation

Straubel submitted additional documents requested by the MDNR regarding the Trailhead Project and is now waiting on a fully-executed project agreement. Council briefly discussed a timeframe for the project, as well as design particulars/amenities.

Per Mulnix, plans for an additional baseball field at Scheid Park are expected to be presented to council soon.

Council members discussed potential opportunities to expand Scheid Park.

DPW Simmons informed council of a complaint he received regarding Trees Inc. parking their vehicles at Scheid Park. Simmons spoke with the Trees Inc. crew and together they resolved the issue to the satisfaction of all.

Streets – No report.

Buildings & Grounds – No report.

Water & Sewer

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires every community throughout the United States to report specific details regarding water quality, along with any contaminants that may be found in the water supply. In order to ensure that this information reaches all customers, the EPA requires that an annual Consumers Confidence Report (CCR) be mailed or hand delivered to each household and business the Village of Saranac supplies water to.

Council members reviewed a letter received from a Village resident regarding the Village of Saranac's 2017 CCR. He is concerned about information provided in the report, that he believes to be erroneous.

Straubel and DPW Simmons conducted an in-depth review of the resident's concerns and prepared responses (with document back-up) that confirm the accuracy of the information presented in the Village of Saranac's 2017 CCR.

Council provided input on the responses prepared by Straubel and DPW Simmons. Straubel will revise the responses based on the input received, and mail to the resident tomorrow.

Public Comments – None.

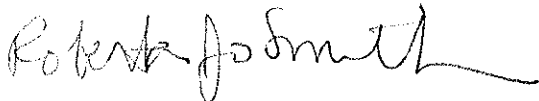
Additional Business

Mulnix inquired if there had been a request by a state representative to hold office hours at the Village office. Straubel stated that there had been and that the request was denied based on council's motion to only allow use of the Village office by 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

Darby informed council members of an upcoming Saranac Promise fundraiser.

Darby reminded council members of their invitation to attend the September 18th Saranac Lion's Club meeting and dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 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