

VILLAGE OF SARANAC
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2025

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, DPW Koster; Trustees – Day, Klutman, Mulnix, Talcott, Whorley

Absent: Straubel, Doll

Guests: Chuck Prins

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

Public Comments

Chuck Prins, President of The Flat River Tractor Club requested permission to bring tractor pulls to Saranac. The location requested is the grassy area between Depot Street and the Rail Trail. They would need approximately 12 x 300 feet. Usage is estimated to be 30-40 smaller sized tractors. The "track" would consist of a foot or so of clay and wouldn't likely start until next year. They would entertain around 6 pulls in August & September when they are not at other events.

Council suggested he talk with residents on Depot St. as well as the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trails group to see if there would be any concerns.

Law Enforcement Report

Council members reviewed Ionia County Sheriff Office stats for Village of Saranac patrol for the month of June 2025.

Deputy Alec Stewart was in attendance to provide council members with an update on village law enforcement items of interest and answer various questions from council members.

Motion was made by Day, supported by Talcott, to accept the minutes of the June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting and the June 30, 2025 Zoning Board of Appeals Special Meeting/Public Hearing. All yeas.

Motion was made by Mulnix, supported by Klutman, to accept the Treasurer's Report of June 30, 2025. All yeas.

Various Accounts Payable items were reviewed and questions answered.

Motion was made by Whorley, supported by Talcott, to approve the Accounts Payable of July 14, 2025, in the amount of \$98,649.80.

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

The Zoning Administrator's Report of Services for June 2025 was reviewed.

Council members discussed an anonymous letter sent by a resident of the Saranac Housing Commission, received by Straubel via the Village drop box.

It was unclear in the letter, which location was of concern, a residential lot or gravel pit outside of the Village. There is work being done at the school requiring dump truck usage for road and roof projects.

Most of the work should be completed in August. Koster will talk with the Angie Stephens, Executive Director at Saranac Housing Commission to hopefully clarify concerns.

Council reviewed email correspondence between Straubel and Jeanne Vandersloot, Zoning Administrator, regarding potential zoning violations.

The Planning Commission did not meet in July.

Committee Reports

Budget – No report

Personnel – No report

Public Safety

Koster stated the Fire Department is on track to hit 850 calls, averaging 3 per day.

Parks & Recreation

Koster mentioned that the tree branch over the riverwalk has been cleared and the DPW crew has sprayed for mosquitoes along the trail and park areas.

Mulnix stated he participated with Impact Church on a volunteer project to clean up along the river in Saranac on June 12-13.

Day reported that youth travel ball will be using Saranac as their local home this fall (no concession though).

Streets

Day inquired about the weeds along the bridge and if there were plans to address them. Koster stated he will take care of it but has been reluctant to spray any weed killer for fear it could end up polluting the river.

Koster reported that two sidewalks are slated for ADA ramp repairs and Surf Internet is starting phase 2 of conduit installation.

Buildings & Grounds – No report

Water & Sewer

Koster stated that the Pleasant Street sewer replacement project going up to the school, is underway. The sewer lining project will start after Bridgefest.

Public Comments – None

Village of Saranac
Minutes 7/14/25
Page 3 of 3

Darby shared that the Dirty Plate is unfortunately closing.

Additional Business – None

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Sharon Darby,
Village President