

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2016**

Council president Paul Leonard Jr. called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Leonard was James Bracewell, Frank Giglio, and Blake O'Halloran. Deborah Lindley was not in attendance as she was out of town.

Call to
Order

Leonard introduced Janet Cocciarella . She is the Executive Director of The Pokagon Fund. Leonard said he has met with her and let her know how much the Village appreciates the funds that are received from The Pokagon Fund.

Cocciarella told the council that she oversees the municipal funds, investments and grant requests.

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Adopt
Agenda

Bracewell moved, seconded by Giglio to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 16, 2015. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Approve
Minutes

Commission Reports:

Commission
Reports

Building & Zoning: Bracewell said there are a number of ongoing projects and Building Inspector Bill Lambert makes his rounds to check on them.

Parks & Beaches: Giglio said the lake is frozen with snow on it. He said he is frustrated that the grass that was planted near the entrance has already been damaged by vehicles driving and parking on it.

Streets & Water: Leonard said that with Flint in the news lately, he wants to emphasize that we test our water regularly and the quality of our water is very high. He reminded residents that will be away from their home for a period of time to protect it by having the water turned off and winterized.

Police: Commissioner Lindley was not in attendance.

Pro-Shop and Course: O'Halloran had nothing to report. He said in February the council will take a look at green fees, golf cart fees and the purchase of two freezers.

ServiScape: Clay Putnam told the council that they are working on winter equipment maintenance. They had to replace a battery in the lake pump house for the back-up sump pump.

ServiScape
Report

Personnel Reports:

Personnel
Reports

Superintendent: In addition to his written report, Bob Dabbs told the council they have been plowing snow and catching up on projects. He hopes to have information regarding new water meters for the budget meeting in March.

Police Chief: Chief Dan Schroeder told the council that it has been quiet in the Village.

Building Inspector: Bill Lambert said there were 53 building permits issued in 2015, and there have been two issued so far in 2016. He expects permit applications for three new houses in the near future.

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the payment of the bills with the written additions as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Pay Bills

Unfinished Business:

Leonard said that the Village should be charging residents when an employee has to come out in the middle of the night or on a weekend to turn a residents water on or off. O'Halloran agreed and said that all of the other communities around Grand Beach charge a fee for this service. It was decided that there should not be a charge during regular Department of Public Works (DPW) hours, but the council was in favor of a charge of \$75 to turn on and \$75 to turn off the water after DPW regular hours, on weekends and holidays. The \$75 fee will cover the overtime pay for an employee called out to turn the water on or off.

Water Rates

The Village purchases water from Michiana, and was recently notified of an increase of twenty cents per 1,000 gallons of water. The council discussed a water rate increase to residents to cover the additional charge, and agreed on a twenty-five cent increase to cover the cost with the additional five cents being used for other water expenses.

Bill Lambert told the council that he had spoken with LaPorte, Beverly Shores and Long Beach about the need for a performance bond when contractors are doing work in their municipalities. He said that Indiana does not require a licensed contractor to do work in their state and that is why the municipalities require the bond.

Road
Damage
Caused By
Construction

Michigan requires licensed contractors, so they do not offer performance bonds to cover damage to roads. Lambert suggested adding language proposed by Planning Commission Chair Ray Kelly to the permit application to make the building permit holder responsible for any damage done to the road during construction. Clerk Mary Robertson will talk to Attorney Sara Bell about adding language to the permitting process.

New Business:

Giglio told the council that the Village received two bids for the flower project that he proposed between Highway 12 and the railroad tracks. A bid was received from NBA Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$26,550. Giglio said the bid included asphalt patching. The second bid was submitted by ServiScape in the amount of \$36,450 and included replacing the asphalt with the exception of 25' from the railroad tracks towards Highway 12. The bid does not include permit fees that may be required by the State of Michigan.

Review Bids
for Flower
Project

O'Halloran said that he doesn't think NBA Contracting is a landscaper, and his concern is that this area will have to be maintained, and he thinks it is a good idea to look at somebody

that knows flowers and plants and will be able to maintain it and take care of it to make sure it always looks nice.

Leonard felt that with the NBA proposal, the asphalt patching would detract from the visual impact of the project. He likes the idea of having it done by people who come to our meetings and look us in the eye, so that if there is a problem we can get it settled quickly. He likes the idea that people who do the work will take a sense of ownership over what they're doing. While ordinarily the money would be more of an issue to him, at this point for those intangibles, he would be inclined to go with ServiScape because he thinks it provides a better value to the Village than the NBA proposal.

The Village hopes to obtain a grant from The Pokagon Fund to pay for the project. Janet Cocciarella of The Pokagon Fund find out how much money is available to the Village at this time.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the proposal for the flower project from ServiScape in the amount of \$36,450 plus permit fees subject to the Village finding the funds to pay for the project. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Bracewell moved, seconded by Giglio to transfer \$27,084.86 to Capital Projects Fund. The funds were received from the Local Revenue Sharing Fund and have typically been used for street paving. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Transfer
\$27,084.86
to Capital
Projects

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve a telephone allowance of \$50 per month for Tim Pendergast and Dale Powell. Clerk Robertson explained that this was something that Bob Dabbs had suggested at the budget committee meeting and it was included in the adopted budget, but still required approval by the council. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Telephone
Allowance
Pendergast
and Powell

O'Halloran said that he feels that procedurally the budget committee should not make these types of decisions. Leonard suggested that if there is something new included in the budget in the future, it should be noted so that all council members are aware of it. Dabbs asked if all council members could attend the budget meeting. The council will hold a special meeting in March to work on the budget.

Leonard said the Village has been in discussion with Grand Beach Land Development (GBLD) in regards to the dedication of roads in the newer section of the Village. Leonard spoke with Village Attorney Sara Bell and found out that it is not as easy as he thought it would be. Bell will meet with GBLD's attorney Sally Taylor to discuss how to move forward with the dedication. Once details have been worked out, the plat of survey will need to be amended and sent to the Circuit Court for approval.

Road
Dedication
Update

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve hall rental requests for Peter Hillman on January 23, 2016 and Rex Bailey on October 8, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Hall Rental
Requests

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Audience Recognition: None

Audience
Recognition
Correspondence

Correspondence: None

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Bracewell to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer