

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 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, Deborah Lindley and Blake O'Halloran.

Call to
Order

Bracewell moved, seconded by Lindley to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Adopt
Agenda

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 20, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Approve
Minutes

Commission Reports:

Commission
Reports

Building & Zoning: Bracewell said that we continue to get new permit applications.

Parks & Beaches: Giglio asked the council to consider installing two signs in the spring stating that drivers should keep off the grass along Grand Beach Road near the entrance. No action was taken.

Streets & Water: Leonard said the Village has made it through the winter with no major problems.

Leonard will speak with Village Attorney Sara Bell about the Village's sign ordinance after reading an article titled "Sign Ordinances Turned Upside Down" that was published in the Michigan Municipal League "The Review" magazine. He would like Bell to determine if the ordinance is subject to constitutional challenge under the 1st Amendment.

Police: Lindley told those in attendance that Sergeant Flick will be presented a lifesaving award by the American Red Cross at the March council meeting. Leonard encouraged others to attend to show their support and appreciation for the police department.

Pro-Shop and Course: O'Halloran said that in preparation for the upcoming budget meeting, he spoke with Clay Putnam of ServiScape about the condition of equipment used to maintain the golf course. He said that much of the mowing equipment has surpassed its life expectancy. The Village needs to start budgeting for these expenditures, adding that it will be very costly. He will present information to the council in his six-year plan at the upcoming budget meeting.

ServiScape: Clay Putnam told the council that they continue to do equipment maintenance and he is working on the 2017 budget.

ServiScape
Report

Personnel Reports:

Personnel
Reports

Superintendent: In addition to his written report, Bob Dabbs told the council that the men's restroom upgrade has been completed and looks very nice. The maintenance department will paint the bathroom floors and walls.

Police Chief: Chief Dan Schroeder had nothing in addition to his written report.

Building Inspector: Bill Lambert said there were 53 building permits issued in 2015, and there have been three issued so far in 2016. He is aware of several more permit applications that will be coming in soon.

Bracewell moved, seconded by Giglio to approve the payment of the bills with the written additions as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Pay Bills

Unfinished Business:

Leonard said that over the last few months the council has been discussing different ways to hold contractors and or homeowners responsible for damage to the roads caused by construction.

Road
Damage
Caused By
Construction

Building Inspector Bill Lambert said that he recently had a contractor submit a signed letter stating that he will have the road damage repaired in the spring when the weather permits this type of repair. Lambert hopes that the homeowner will also sign the letter.

Lambert said he will continue to talk to contractors where damage has been done to the roads and will have them submit a similar letter if the weather does not permit the repair work. He thinks this will work until a solution is found.

There was discussion about the possibility of charging an impact fee with the building permit fee to contractors who will be doing major construction. Clerk Mary Robertson stated that she doesn't think that the State of Michigan will allow this type of fee since the Village is only allowed to charge permit fees to run the building department.

New Business:

Kevin Raade of Kruggel, Lawton & Company thanked the council for allowing their firm to prepare the annual audit. The Village's auditor Schaffer & Layher recently merged with Kruggel & Lawton, and the Village is working with the same staff as in the past.

Audit
Presentation
2014/2015

Raade explained that there are new standards required for a school or municipality when there is a pension plan involved. He said that GASB 68 requires that there be a line item on the books for "Net Pension Asset" and additional information included in the audit.

He said the fund balance is currently at \$1,017,284, up by \$121,009 since last year. He said the Village has 18 months' worth of operating expenses. The Water Fund generated a profit of \$41,000 and the Golf Fund generated a profit of \$21,000.

He said that Clerk Mary Robertson was very helpful during the audit and does a good job with the bookkeeping. He will continue to work with her to get all of the filings done and submitted to the state.

O’Halloran would like to replace a failing freezer in the pro shop with the same type of freezer we currently have, stating that it has lasted for many years and might have been purchased used.

Freezer
Purchase
Pro Shop

Giglio moved, seconded by Bracewell to purchase a commercial freezer for the pro shop at a cost not to exceed \$4,830.32. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

O’Halloran discussed a \$5 increase to golf cart fees for Village residents and a different style of registration sticker for carts that are registered from outside of the Village. Chief Schroeder suggested a round sticker for the carts from outside the Village and the normal square sticker for the Village carts so that officers will be able to distinguish between the two different stickers.

Golf Cart
Registration
Fee and
Sticker Style

O’Halloran talked about the possibility of creating a fee structure for people that own more than one cart, but after discussion decided not to make that change this year.

Leonard moved, seconded by Giglio to increase the golf cart registration fee for Village residents for carts registered prior to May 1 from \$225 to \$230 and to use a larger round sticker for carts that are registered from outside of the Village. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

O’Halloran suggested that golf fees remain the same as last year.

Golf Fees

Leonard moved, seconded by Giglio to adopt resolution #2016-01 to increase water rates to \$5.75 per 1,000 gallons used. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Resolution
Water Rates

Leonard moved, seconded by Lindley to adopt ordinance #2016-01 regarding water rates and rules to become effective on March 14, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Ordinance
Water Rates
and Rules

Leonard moved, seconded by O’Halloran to apply for a grant from The Pokagon Fund in the amount of \$37,650 for the flower project at the entrance off of US Highway 12. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Pokagon
Fund Grant
Request

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve the Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension with AT&T for five years through March 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Metro Act
5 Year
Extension

Leonard explained that it was recently brought to his attention that the road we use to access the water tower cuts across private property. He said the Village needs to order a survey in order to prepare paperwork for an easement or conveyance of the property to the Village.

Survey
Easement for
Road to
Water Tower

Bracewell moved, seconded by Giglio to approve the expenditure to obtain a survey of the area where the access road to the water tower crosses private property. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

O’Halloran moved, seconded by Leonard to approve the hall rental request for Morgan Abaravich on October 15, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Hall Rental Requests

Audience Recognition: Village resident Ed Burke lives next to the Robin Lane beach easement and expressed his concern about the possibility of the Village putting in an access on Robin Lane that would go straight down to the beach for emergency use. He stated that he had a sea wall installed in front of his property when he built his house and also had received permission from Larry Frankle to install a seawall next to his property. His concern is that the Village will remove or damage the sea wall which could cause damage to his property. Leonard told him that he met with the DEQ regarding this project and that one of the requirements is that the Village has to take care not to cause damage to properties on either side of the easement. Leonard said that Burke’s concern will have to be addressed by the engineer if the Village moves forward with the project.

Audience Recognition

Correspondence: None

Correspondence

O’Halloran moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m. EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer