

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 18, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council president Paul Leonard Jr. called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Leonard were James Bracewell, Frank Giglio, Deborah Lindley and Blake O'Halloran.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

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

**APPROVE MINUTES**

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 14, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

**PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION**

None

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

Building & Zoning: Bracewell reported that we currently have eight new homes under construction. The only permit he has had an inquiry about is the building going up on Cedar in regards to height.

Parks & Beaches, Police, Pro-Shop and Course: Giglio, Lindley and O'Halloran had nothing to report. O'Halloran asked Superintendent Bob Dabbs to check out a couple of the trees in the park to see if they need to be removed.

Streets & Water: Leonard told the council that he received a report from a state commission on 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure in Michigan and it indicates that it will cost about 60 billion dollars over the next 10 years to do the things that need to be done in Michigan, They are suggesting local communities do more to help with infrastructure upgrades.

ServiScape: Clay Putnam reported that winter maintenance continues. They are currently seeking bids to replace some of the equipment.

**PERSONNEL REPORTS**

Superintendent: In addition to his written report, Bob Dabbs said they are filling pot holes, and working in the shop.

Police Chief: Chief Dan Schroeder was not in attendance.

Building Inspector Bill Lambert said we closed the year out with 42 permits.

**PAY BILLS**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 18, 2017

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **PRIVATE STREETS FROM GRAND BEACH LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Leonard said that he and Village Attorney Sara Senica, formerly known as Sara Bell, have discussed the streets several times that Grand Beach Land Development (GBLD) and Grand Beach Investments I, LLC (GBI) want to dedicate to the Village, and have also exchanged emails about the matter.

Attorney Sara Senica was in attendance and told the council that over the last few months they have been talking with GBLD and GBI, who have made a very kind offer to the Village to make several private streets public. She said that her recommendation to the council is to move forward with the transaction to accept the streets. She has reviewed everything and believes that the liability risk is very low, but told the council said there is always a risk. She feels it is in the best interest of the Village to move forward with accepting the streets. She stated that the agreement needs to be signed, and the deed needs to be signed by GBLD & GBI, and recorded with the Register of Deeds.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve and authorize the signing of all necessary documents to accept the roads from Grand Beach Land Development and Grand Beach Investments I, LLC. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

The roads offered for dedication to the Village include parts of Grand Beach Boulevard, Deer Park Drive, Robin Lane, and Erich Lane.

#### **GRANT PROPOSAL**

O'Halloran said that Grand Beach Land Development (GBLD) recently let the Council know that they wanted to make a change to the lease for the driving range so that it would no longer tie up their property for eighteen months. They have discussed and will continue to discuss the terms of a new lease.

He said that if GBLD decides to put the property up for sale that includes the driving range, the Village would be interested in not only keeping the range, but also some of the other land. Leonard said the Village hasn't received any information from GBLD, but it is appropriate to make it clear that the Village is interested in acquiring some or all of the property if they do want to sell it.

O'Halloran said that the Village has a 5-year parks and recreation plan in place which allows the Village to apply for grants. The Village would like to find out if GBLD is interested in selling, and if they are, the Council would like to hire a company to apply for a grant through the state. The grant application is due by April 1 for the 2017 grant cycle. O'Halloran said if something doesn't happen in time to apply for a grant, the Village would have to push it out until next year. He said the Michigan grants are for this type of expenditure, acquiring land and preserving open land.

Leonard said it depends on what the price might be and if GBLD is interested in selling parts of the land. O'Halloran said the Village does not want to miss the opportunity to purchase the land.

#### **LIFE INSURANCE**

Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson explained that the insurance company that the Village received a proposal from at the December meeting did not include all of the employees from the census that was given to them by our insurance agent. With the addition of the missing employee, there is no cost savings to the Village, and the insured people over 65 years old will see a larger reduction in their coverage.

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 18, 2017

Leonard moved, seconded by Giglio to remain with our existing carrier for life insurance. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Leonard went over the 2016 annual report submitted by the Planning Commission.

### **COUNCIL MEETING RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to adopt the Council Meeting "Rules of Procedure" as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **SOCIAL CLUB CONTRACT**

Leonard stated that the Social Club contract is up for renewal. The revised contract includes an additional section regarding the necessity of purchasing liquor liability coverage for any events in which the social club sells tickets for alcohol.

Bracewell suggested Clerk-Treasurer Robertson contact Frank Gazzolo to find out if the Social Club has insurance that they can add the Village of Grand Beach to as an additional insured in regards to liquor liability coverage.

There was discussion concerning carpet cleaning before and after the Social Club's season. The Village has the carpet shampooed before the start of the season, and the Clerk-Treasurer suggested requiring the Social Club to have the carpet shampooed at the end of the season.

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to table the Social Club contract until we get feedback from them. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **WATER DEPARTMENT TELEMETRY SYSTEM PROPOSAL**

Bob Dabbs told the council that the computer that runs the water telemetry system has to be replaced every three years and it's time to replace it. He told the council that the telemetry system allows him to pick up his phone and see how much water is being used and what the chlorine residual is. If there's a fire, he can turn on the pumps. There is telemetry at the water tower that should communicate to the shop, and it is not communicating. A new, upgraded system will allow him to respond more quickly. The new system will have a high and low residual alarm to warn if the chlorine is too high or low.

He told the Council that he received a \$5,000 proposal to replace a clay valve, but they have decided that they can purchase the valve and save money by installing it themselves.

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve the proposal from Peerless Midwest for the new computer for the water department with Windows10 and the Factory Talk SCADA Software package with a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **AT&T TELEPHONE PURCHASE AND SERVICE PROPOSAL**

Clerk-Treasurer Robertson explained that the AT&T telephone service contract is expiring. She received a proposal from AT&T that would be much less expensive than what the Village is current paying, but would use a different type of line that would go over the internet and would require the purchase of new telephones. She said she received a proposal earlier in the day from Comcast and the cost was very similar. The telephone lines would not go over the internet, and the Village would not need to purchase telephones.

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 18, 2017

Leonard moved, seconded by Lindley to approve a telephone service contract with Comcast. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **POKAGON FUND - CHANGES TO FUNDING**

Leonard told the Council that he and Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson recently met with The Pokagon Fund (TPF) Director Janet Cocciarelli to discuss changes to the way grants are going to be handled. He said that TPF started out receiving 2% of the money generated by slot machines, and it is now down to .75% where it will remain.

He said that TPF realized that it was apparent that they would run out of money and exhaust the principal that they had, so they did strategic planning and decided that funds will be disbursed on costs incurred. Grant proposals will be based on poverty reduction, education and community vitality. The Village grants will fit under the community vitality. Cocciarelli stated that they will no longer be sending out a check at the start of a project, but reimbursing when the project is completed. After the project is completed, there will be accountability. As of January 11, 2017, Grand Beach has \$33,474 set aside at The Pokagon Fund.

### **DISEASED TREES ON GRAND BEACH ROAD**

Leonard said that he received reports regarding the spruce trees on Grand Beach Road that are diseased with a fungal infection. He understands from talking with Bob Dabbs that our crew can take down the trees, grind them up and dispose of them. He said they are going to continue to deteriorate, so he thinks in the spring the maintenance department should take them down. He suggested letting nature take its course on the trees that are diseased but not yet necessary to remove rather than treat them because there is no guarantee that with the treatments the trees will survive.

Leonard said there are other species that are more resistant to this disease and one of them is the White Pine. Clay Putnam of ServiScape suggested replacing the trees with more than one variety because it seems that every 30-40 years, one type of disease or bug comes along and damages different species of trees.

### **HALL RENTAL REQUESTS –**

Leonard moved, seconded by Lindley to approve the hall rental request (after the use) from Jim Bracewell for December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

### **AUDIENCE RECOGNITION**

Village resident Ed Trainor asked the council if they could include the entire council meeting packet on the Village website similar to what the City and Township of New Buffalo are doing. Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson explained that they use a different system, and she wasn't sure if her scanner could handle all of the documents. Leonard was concerned that the Village website might only be able to hold so much information and the Village would not want to purchase more space on the website.

Trainor also asked if the Village has considered putting GPS trackers on the Village vehicles in order to keep track of where the vehicles are located. He said adding a GPS tracker is very inexpensive.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Bracewell to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 18, 2017

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m. EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson  
Clerk-Treasurer