

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 18, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Council president Paul Leonard Jr. called the regular council meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Leonard were James Bracewell, Frank Giglio, Deborah Lindley and Blake O'Halloran.

ADOPT AGENDA

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Giglio to adopt the April 18, 2018 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPROVE MINUTES

Giglio moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the minutes of the Budget Workshop of March 10, 2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. Giglio moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 21, 2018 as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

RICHARD "EDGE" EDGEWORTH PASSING

Leonard stated that golf course ranger Richard "Edge" Edgeworth recently passed away and will be missed. Edge worked on the golf course for 12 years and was a friend to everyone. The Village extends its condolences to his family.

COMMISSION REPORTS

BUILDING & ZONING: Bracewell had nothing to report.

PARKS & BEACHES: Giglio introduced County Commissioner Ezra Scott who spoke about a recent trip he took to Washington, DC in February with members of the Shoreline Alliance and their attorney to discuss the loss of sands on the beaches south of New Buffalo. They met with the Department of Interior, a representative of Senator Stabenow and the Under Secretary of the Army Corps of Engineers. He said he recently found a Great Lakes Fishery and Eco System Program that grants funds to rebuild aquatic life and is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife. He plans to apply for funds through this program to help replenish the beaches.

Giglio said Donkersloot is bringing in small stone at Royal and once completed, Royal will be open. He stated that Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson talked to Village Attorney Sara Senica about fencing around the pier, and the attorney suggested cable type fencing. He suggested having a diagram available at the next Council meeting showing where the Marquette Greenway Bike Trail might be located.

STREETS & WATER: Leonard reported that water is being tested and streets are being patched.

POLICE: Lindley reported that there is a medication drop box in the Clerk's office with a list of different types of medications and ointments that can be dropped off.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 18, 2018

PRO-SHOP & COURSE: O'Halloran reported that April has been dismal compared to last April. The installation of the engraved bricks will begin in two weeks. He hopes to start an online store.

SERVISCAPE REPORT

Clay Putnam reported that the sump pump in the pump house has been replaced due to age. Tree trimming work is complete. He hopes to have the water background study for the next meeting.

PERSONNEL REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: Superintendent Bob Dabbs said he will have the feasibility study for the hall at the May meeting.

POLICE CHIEF: Police Chief Dan Schroeder thanked CVS Pharmacy for the donation of the medication box. The shared police scheduling with Michiana is working out very well.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Bill Lambert reported that there are three new houses going up. He said the Village continues to get calls or letters of complaint regarding a project on Oak and he has contacted the contractor who started the house two years ago and they will get the trusses up within a week.

Lambert reported that the Village has received complaints regarding the Ruffner property on West McKean which is in poor condition. Letters have been sent to her in the past regarding the condition of the property and she has paid the fines and done nothing with the house and garage. He suggested a large fine, or condemning the property if it is not repaired. He will work with Chief Schroeder to prepare a letter regarding the property.

BILLS TO BE PAID

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CHARTER REVISION

Leonard said there will be language on the ballot at the election to allow Village Council members to be compensated for Council meetings that they attend, although if approved, it will only be applicable to Council members going forward. He said the Council agendas keep getting longer and longer and Council members spend more and more time working outside of the meetings.

Giglio moved, seconded by Bracewell to put a proposal on the ballot to amend Section 19 of the Charter to allow for the Council to set compensation for the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and other boards. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PROPOSAL TO INSPECT WATER INTAKE FOR GOLF COURSE IRRIGATION

O'Halloran said that the Village received quotes to inspect the intake lines at the pump house from Gus Commercial Divers \$3,750, a revised quote from Lindahl Marine \$3,750 and Northern Divers USA \$6,550. Both Lindahl and Gus Commercial Divers were recommended by ServiScape.

O'Halloran said the Council does not have a time frame to get this work done, and needs to make sure that the diving company understands that we need good photos. He does not want them to come back and say the water wasn't clear and the photos weren't good. Clay Putnam of ServiScape said he would like to speak with the companies to see if they are willing to come back to take pictures without an additional charge if the weather is not good when they come to do the inspection.

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to appropriate an expenditure of up to \$3,750 and to leave it to the discretion of Clay Putnam of ServiScape to contract with either Lindahl Marine or Gus Commercial Divers to inspect the water intake pipe and intake opening and anything else that might be part of that system. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

REPLACE SEPTIC TANK – MAINTENANCE/POLICE BUILDING

Superintendent Bob Dabbs said he has applied for the septic permit and is waiting for the Berrien County Health Department to come out and tell him what type of tanks to use.

UTILITY BATHROOM FOR MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Bob Dabbs said that Bill Lambert will help him with the layout of the additional bathroom at the maintenance building and asked that the subject be added to the May agenda.

PICKLEBALL COURT

O'Halloran said that the Parks and Recreation Committee had a discussion about the pickleball court. He questioned the location of the proposed court and was concerned with balls from the golf course being hit into the area. Giglio and Bracewell will meet to discuss a location.

NEW BUSINESS

ACCEPT PATTY CATTES' RESIGNATION

Leonard said Officer Patty Cattes has taken another job. The Village will pay a lump sum payment to her for accumulated vacation time with her insurance ending on April 30th. The Council wishes her well. Lindley moved, seconded by Giglio to accept Officer Patty Cattes' resignation. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

HIRE FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER

Lindley said that she and Chief Schroeder interviewed Patrick Myers to replace Officer Cattes. Schroeder said he has worked in police work for 16 years. Lindley said in keeping with the same pay rate as Michiana, he will be paid \$19.50 per hour. He will have a 180-day probationary period with benefits after 60 days and insurance starting on July 1st. He will start work on April 25th.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to hire Patrick Myers at \$19.50 an hour with the same terms and conditions that the other officers had when they joined our department. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

DEPUTY CLERK PAY RAISE

Leonard said the Deputy Clerk's probationary period ended on April 1st and Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson gives her a good report. Giglio moved, seconded by Bracewell to give Deputy Clerk Cheryl Cook a \$.50 per hour pay raise. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

DEPUTY CLERK HOLIDAY PAY

Leonard said that when Cheryl Cook was hired, the Council discussed offering paid holidays after her probationary period. She works between 20-25 hours per week and her holiday pay would be based on five hours per day. Giglio moved, seconded by Leonard to include holiday pay for the Deputy Clerk based on five hours per holiday. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

REFUSE COLLECTION FEES

Leonard stated that the Village pays for the garbage collection, and all of the other communities pass the cost on to their residents. The Village is currently billed at \$12.12 per household. Able Disposal only charges for 340 homes when we actually have 443 homes. It makes sense to take the annual cost of approximately \$50,000 and divide by 443 houses which reduces the cost from \$12.12 per household down to \$9.40 per month, but if Able starts charging for all homes, we will have to increase the cost by 30% to \$12.12 per month. We don't expect Able to increase the number of homes, but anything can happen.

Leonard said that passing the cost on to the residents will free up funds for capital improvements, and will help build up the reserves after significant expenses for beach revetment which is not yet complete and street paving, and will help with upcoming projects including the protection of the pump house, a new septic system and replacing the drain from the park to the creek.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to start charging \$9.40 per month to all residents of the Village starting immediately to cover the cost of garbage collection and to include the charges on the water bills. Motion carried 4-1 with Giglio, Leonard, Lindley and O'Halloran voting aye and Bracewell voting nay.

KRUGGEL LAWTON CPA 3-YEAR PROPOSAL

Leonard said that the Village has worked with Kruggel Lawton on the audits and they've done a good job. They submitted a 3-year proposal with no increase over the 3 year period. Bracewell moved, seconded by Leonard to accept a 3-year proposal with Kruggel Lawton to provide accounting services for the next three years at the same rate. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

ROSE BRICK PAYMENT \$1,061

Leonard said at the last meeting the Council inadvertently failed to approve the payment of \$1,061 for the order from Rose Bricks with funds coming from the brick program. Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the payment of \$1,061 to Rose Brick for blank bricks for the golf brick project. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

MERRITT ENGINEERING PARK DRAIN PROPOSAL

Leonard moved, seconded by Giglio to approve a proposal from Merritt Midwest Inc. in the amount of \$3,500 for the cost of engineering services of \$3,500. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

ABONMARCHE PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN & PERMITTING FOR BEACH ACCESSES

Leonard said the Council received a proposal from Abonmarche for design and permitting for protection of the pump house and for revetment of a drain near the McDonald property at a cost of \$17,300. He said Abonmarche is also doing the permitting that the Heakins are paying for on Lake Park and Strauss. At some point, the Village will have to pay for the cost of the rock that will be placed in that area. Lindley said that after they design the project and permit it, the Village will go out for bid for the project.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to accept the proposal from Abonmarche in the amount of \$17,300 for design and permitting for the pump house and revetment for the drain near the McDonald property. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

ICE CREAM CABINET PURCHASE

O'Halloran said he would like to purchase a new ice cream dipping cabinet for the pro shop with proceeds from the brick sales. O'Halloran moved, seconded by Bracewell to purchase a Master-Bilt DD-88 Ice Cream Dipping Cabinet from Webstaurant Store at a cost of \$4,680.59. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. The Village received a bid from Zesco for a smaller unit at a cost of \$5,635.17.

SOCIAL CLUB CONTRACT

Leonard said this is the usual social club contract, but we have included information regarding music to be the same as that of the regular hall rental contract. He said the Council will waive the outside music requirement for Family Fest. The cost to the Social Club for the rental is \$2,000 plus \$500 for insurance. Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran that the rental agreement as amended be approved for the Grand Beach Social Club. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

SOCIAL CLUB USE OF VILLAGE GROUNDS FOR FAMILY FEST

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the Social Club request for the use of the circle and Village grounds for Family Fest on June 30, 2018. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

SET TERMS FOR PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Giglio said that Mario Ortega of McKenna suggested that the Parks and Recreation Committee meet twice a year, and the committee met earlier and will meet again in October. O'Halloran said they would like to meet at 7:00 p.m. EST prior to the Council meeting. They suggested (2) 2-year terms and (1) 1-year term with the terms effective January 1, 2018 for the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Giglio moved, seconded by Leonard to set the terms for the Parks and Recreation Committee with two members, Amy Hanley and Laurie Roche serving 2-year terms ending December 31, 2019 and one member, Kieran McHugh serving a 3-year term ending December 31, 2020. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

REVIEW BUDGETS 2018-2019

Leonard said that Mary Robertson made a change to the building inspector fees to be 60% of the permit fees, removed the \$4,000 expenditure for the ice cream cabinet and included holiday pay for the Deputy Clerk as suggested by Leonard at the budget workshop. Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve the changes to the proposed 2018-2019 budgets. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

HALL RENTAL – MARY KENNY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Lindley to approve the hall rental request from Mary Kenny for November 22, 2018. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

AMY HANLEY – COYOTE REMOVAL

BARBARA SPENCER – COYOTE REMOVAL

DIANE CARLSON – COYOTE REMOVAL

Leonard said that the Council received additional correspondence regarding coyote removal and at this point and time, the Village is not taking any efforts to remove coyotes. The private property owner is handling trapping animals and the Village will require signage stating that they are trapping. Leonard said under state law; residents have the right to trap them on their own property. The Council can't regulate what a property owner does on their private property.

Residents Amy Hanley and Dave Krogh addressed the Council concerning the traps that are being used and the possibilities that children, dogs and other animals might be injured.

Lindley said she is concerned that these types of traps might trap a dog. She said that the wildlife has been running around here forever and there is no way to control it.

JOHN DEANER – THANK YOU AND COUNCIL COMPENSATION

Leonard said the Council received a thank you letter from John Deaner.

ADJOURNMENT:

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m. EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer