

VILLAGE OF SAND LAKE
MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 18, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Sand Lake Village Council was called to order by President Roger Towsley at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 18, 2016, at the Sand Lake Municipal Building.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **ROLL CALL**
MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Ward, Thomas Norton, Adam Hill, Roger Towsley, Dave Dewey, Bette Towsley, Danielle Hardenburg
4. **AGENDA**
Motion made by D. Dewey and seconded by T. Norton to approve the July 18, 2016 Agenda.
MOTION CARRIED
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**
 - A. **MINUTES: JUNE 20, 2016 REGULAR MEETING**
Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by D. Dewey to approve and file the June 20, 2016 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
MOTION CARRIED
 - B. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
 1. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**
Motion made by D. Dewey and seconded by T. Norton to approve and file the June 2016 Financial Statement as presented by Treasurer Brenda Arnold.
MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer Arnold is still in the process of making the Sewer Bond Reserve & Sewer Repair account a Certificate of Deposit (CD) account.

Treasurer Arnold informed the Council that the Water Fund has a negative balance. However, it is expected to increase the balance with the revenue from the quarterly water utility bills.
 2. **BILLS:**
Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by D. Dewey to pay the June – July 2016 bills in the amount of \$19,303.88 (Nineteen Thousand, Three Hundred Three Dollars and Eighty-eight Cents).
MOTION CARRIED

I. TO APPROVE SILVER & VAN ESSEN'S INVOICE

Motion made by D. Dewey and seconded by T. Norton to pay the May 2016 attorney service for the boat launch issue from Silver & Van Essen for the amount of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars).
MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Towsley inquired if the Silver & Van Essen (SVE) service was a lower price than the Village's attorney, as Trustee Norton stated it. Trustee Norton stated that some of the phone calls and other services from SVE were not included on the invoice.

6. LAKE ST. PROJECT: JONATHAN MOXEY AND ROGER SWETS

Mr. Roger Swets introduced himself to the Council. Mr. Swets informed the Council that the bond issue application submitted to Michigan Department of Treasury to obtain \$750,000.00 from State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) has the least possibility to be approved. However, it will be confirmed in August 2016.

Mr. Swets presented to the Council the option to apply for a loan from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development program. USDA has a lower interest rate, approximately 2.00%, than the SIB. There are no extra fees, as for a bond issue. Since USDA changes the interest rate every quarter, if the Village submits the application before September 2016, the interest rate would be locked for the years of the loan.

Mr. Swets also encourage the Council to initiate the process for the ballot proposal to approve mills on the 2016 November elections.

Mr. Moxey stated that there is a high possibility to obtain the community loan from USDA, even though the Village currently has a utility loan from them.

Mr. Moxey advised the Council to present the proposal on the ballot as a bond issue to be approved by voters for \$750,000.00. By doing so, the mills might stay flexible to increase or decrease in order to cover the amount.

President Towsley suggested to present the proposal on the ballot for the November elections. If it doesn't pass, the Village will have the opportunity to present the proposal again in May 2017 elections.

The extra revenues from ACT51 that the Village will receive for the next 10 years was discussed.

There wouldn't be penalties from USDA to pay the \$750,000.00 loan sooner than the time it should be. However, after paying the \$130,000.00 loan from Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) with the ACT51, the extra revenue from ACT51 will be expended on repairing other roads in the Village instead of using it to pay the USDA loan sooner.

Trustee Hardenburg suggested to wait until the SIB resolves whether to approve the loan requested from the Village for 2.3/4% annual interest rate.

Trustee Norton suggested to continue with the USDA loan application process.

Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by D. Dewey for Mr. Moxey and Mr. Swets to wait for the Attorney General Office's determination of the loan approval. If the Village is declined, the Village will move ahead with the Rural Development Association loan process authorizing Mr. Moxey and Swets to initiate the process.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Moxey informed the Council that the survey and other paperwork from Ritchie Ave. to 5th St. was submitted to MDOT. MDOT will receive the bids from construction companies and will select one. MDOT will make and hold the contract between the construction company and MDOT. MDOT will manage the financial issues with the construction company as well the requirements such as the obligation of holding an insurance policy to cover any liabilities.

During the survey, President Towsley requested Fleis&Vandenbrink to survey the lunch boat property as well. The cost was low, since it took little time to do it.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Paula Wright, the Kent District Library Manager, introduced herself and invited the Council to visit the Library. Also to invite them to attend the Pay-off of the Building Event on Saturday September 3, 2016 from 2 pm to 4 pm.

Treasurer Arnold informed the Council that Tresa Veltkam, 81 E. Lake St., would like to hookup to the water system. Ms. Veltkam requested the Council to reduce the assessment interest rate.

The idea of reducing the hookup cost as a promotion to motivate residents to request water service was discussed.

The suggestion of calculating the material and labor cost for a water hookup, and the amount that could be reduced from the established hookup cost of \$3,000.00 was discussed.

It was the consensus of the Council to inform Ms. Veltkam, through Treasurer Arnold, that her request was not accepted.

8. POLICE REPORT

A. MONTHLY REPORT

Motion made by D. Dewey and seconded by T. Norton to accept and file the June 2016 Police Report as presented by Police Chief James Reamsma.

MOTION CARRIED

During the 4th of July festivities, traffic flow was better than last year. Also, people who stayed at the Sand Lake cemetery were prohibited from shooting fireworks.

Police Chief (PC) Reamsma informed the Council that the Police Department (PD) will participate in the National Night Out. Therefore, PD is hosting an event to offer a self-defense class for women on Tuesday August 02, 2016 at the Salisbury park from 6 to 8:30 pm. PD will continue advertising the event.

9. FIRE REPORT

A. MONTHLY REPORT

Motion made by B. Towsley and seconded by T. Norton to accept and file the June 2016 Fire Report as presented by Fire Chief Edward Holtzlander.

MOTION CARRIED

The Fire Department (FD) will participate in the Annual Ensley Crime Watch Picnic at Ensley Township on July 30, 2016 from 11 am to 3 pm. The FD will receive a donation.

Nyha French and Jason Bergman will be attending a Rural Rescue class at Newaygo. The cost is \$500.00 per person. However, with the Newaygo Chiefs Association membership, the cost will be only \$115.00 each.

Motion made by D. Dewey and seconded by J. Ward to pay the invoice for \$230.00 for the two firefighters' training.

MOTION CARRIED

10. DPW REPORT

A. MONTHLY REPORT

Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by D. Dewey to accept and file the June-July 2016 DPW Report as presented by Mr. Jerry Dines.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Dines informed the Council that the top of Hydrant #34 needs to be replaced.

Due to the painting of the Water Tower, it will be shut down from July 15 to August 15 2016. The water will be provided to customers by running it on pressure.

Mr. Dines informed the Council that because of the unused cars parked across the sidewalks on Maple St. and 6th St., it is dangerous to the pedestrians and difficult for the DPW to give sidewalks' maintenance.

PC Reamsma hasn't enforced the Village ordinances, since the responsibility was not assigned to him when he started the PC position. However, he is willing to do it, if the Council assigns it to him.

The Council would like for those residents who are not in compliance with the appearances of property ordinance, to be forced to remove their unused objects, not just to pay the fine and continue having their unused items in their yard.

PC. Reamsma warned the Council that for residents to start removing their unused vehicles and items from the sight, the process will take time and lawyer fees for court processes.

Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by J. Ward to instruct PC Reamsma to proceed with the process to enforce all the Village ordinance regarding appearances of property.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Dines and the Council members will provide to PC Reamsma a list of property addresses that are not in compliance with the appearances of property ordinance.

Mr. Dines informed the Council that the pothole on 3rd. St., by the Vern's Wooden Nickel business, continues deteriorating regardless of the effort to repair it by using at least two tons of gravel since April 2016. Mr. Dines' recommendation is to cut the spot and install a storm drain to keep water off from the road.

A quote from Deans' was presented to the Council. The installation of a storm drain's cost will be \$10,000.00. The Council requested more quotes for this project.

Mr. Dines presented the Council the need of a Blu-Jet Track Master equipment with optional levelpro to avoid the pivots sinking in the ground while in motion by the lagoons.

Motion made by D. Hardenburg and seconded by T. Norton to approve the purchase of a Blu-Jet Track Master for the cost of \$4,925.00 and \$800.00 to transport the equipment from Minnesota. The expenditure will be charged to Equipment Rental Fund.

MOTION CARRIED

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. MML INSURANCE RENEWAL

On July 19, 2016 will accomplish the 60 days of notice to Michigan Municipal League (MML) about the possible Liability & Property Pool insurance service termination. The Village will start receiving quotes from insurance companies, including MML.

It was the consensus of the Council to send to MML the Renewal information in order to receive a quote.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Towsley informed the Council that on August 15, 2016 Regular Council Meeting will also take place a Public Hearing regarding the changes of district for the businesses: Gary & Sue's Tanning Laundry and Pat Crematory to business district and Wesco to industrial district. Clerk Nielsen will proceed with the process for the Public Hearing.

President Towsley informed the Council that the General Dollar withdrew during the process of establishing the business at 120 S. 3rd St. Therefore, the property owner will open a car wash soon.

Trustee Hardenburg inquired if it was an alternative to impose a fee for businesses who put up signs on their property. The Council disagreed, since the owner has the liberty to do so on their own property.

Linda Misner did not agree with Trustee Hardenburg's idea, and stated that the residents want to keep businesses in town.

13. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

The need of a trash can and a Swimming At Your Own Risk sign by the boat launch was discussed.

It was the consensus of the Council to authorize Mr. Dines to remove the two poles that are at the boat launch.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council,
Motion made by T. Norton and seconded by B. Towsley to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leticia Nielsen, Clerk