

REGULAR MEETING
VILLAGE OF SAND LAKE COUNCIL

December 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
At the Sand Lake Municipal Building
www.villageofsandlake.org

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Quinlan. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. Prayer: Pastor Giddings led the group in prayer.

3. Roll Call: MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Baker, Marcia Helton, Tracy Quinlan, Theresa Jerome and Rachel Gokey. ABSENT: William Rau, Tonia Parkhurst. (both with prior approval)

4. Comments by the President

Thank you to Ark's Electric, the Pierce family, Sand Lake Trading Company, and our DPW for working tirelessly on getting to the Christmas tree ready for the Christmas season! Thank you to the Council, the Fire Department, the DPW, the Sand Lake Chamber of Commerce and all those in the community who have made 2019 a fantastic year for the Village of Sand Lake! I am looking forward to 2020 and expecting an awesome year for the Village and its residents.

5. Public Comments:

The Council welcomes and encourages the public to speak during the public comment portions of the agenda. However, Council policy is to hear the public comment, not to act on the public comment at this time. Concerns brought before the Council during the Public Comment portion of the agenda will be referred to the President for action. If, after communicating with the President, no resolution is reached, the concern will be elevated to the Council for action.

Those citizens wishing to speak on agenda and non-agenda items will be allowed a maximum of **five minutes** each to address their concerns. This is the only time during the Council meeting that citizens are allowed to address the Council. Please state your name and address for the record, if you would like.

Public Comment opened 7:04pm

Matt Baczewski addressed the Council with concerns about Sable Home developing on Ritchie Ave. Matt feels that the Genevieve Plat was improperly posted and stated he called other municipalities about it also. He did agree that he did receive notification of the posting. He wants the Village to ensure residents are protected from issues with Sable Homes. Mr. Baczewski has concerns with septic tanks being installed for phase 1 of the project and feels that the Village and Sable Homes should purchase and install a lift station instead. He presented the Council with an email from an EGLE representative stating two (2) people have contacted them with concerns. Sara Brinks stood and addressed the council. She informed the council that a coworker's daughter is currently suing Sable Homes. A gentleman that did not give his name said he sat and counted traffic on Ritchie Ave. He stated he counted 561 vehicles. Dan Hula, the project engineer for the Village of Sand Lake, had previously presented an official report from Kent County Road Commission stating an official traffic count. Matt B. continued discussion about the lift station and his phone call to Leslie, from the EGLE's. He also

stated that all the ordinances and Master Plan from the Village website have been removed. That statement is false. All documents he spoke of are and have remained on the site since initial upload. When told this Matt B. stated he has never actually been on the website, so he doesn't actually know, he just heard that. Matt B. presented the Council and audience with an extensive list of statements. Only one document was produced to the Council (the email from EGLE's). All other statements made by Matt B. did not have factual evidence other than he heard or someone told him the information. Mike Baczewski stood to address the council. He said the Council needs to speak to Solon and Sparta Townships because they refuse to work with Sable Homes. He also stated that Nelson Township has banned Sable Homes. Trustee Baker & Trustee Jerome then asked Matt B. if he would have a problem with any other developer building on the property. Mike B. stated that "Sable is crooked". Matt B. stated "No, just not Sable Homes, unless they do what they are supposed to do." (to build in the Village of Sand Lake.) Mike B. stated that Miss Dig does not properly mark the utilities in the roads by his property and that the Village doesn't know what is even buried in the road or how much of the road is owned. Mike B. continued to discuss Sara Brinks, her property and her septic tank that was installed. He was trying to ~~blame~~ blame the Council for Sara Brinks septic issues. Trustee Gokey asked Sara Brinks to stand up and clarify the matter. Sara Brinks stood and stated, "It was the health department." Note: Mike Baczewski does NOT live in the Village of Sand Lake. He resides in Nelson Township so any person(s) conducting Miss Dig's or work on his road would be doing so on behalf of Nelson Township, NOT the Village of Sand Lake. Discussion was had by all parties about their concern with allowing Sable Homes to put septic tanks in for Phase 1 of the development build. Two main items were discussed: Current Lagoon capacity and installing a lift station. As many people noticed, when the Village gets a HEAVY downpour Main Street floods. It is a process to figure out the where, why and how to correct the issues. It has also been discovered that CLEAN storm water is in fluxing the lagoons. The Village lagoon is NOT at capacity. Both Matt and Mike Baczewski continually stated that the Village lagoons are at capacity. Weather is preventing smoke testing from currently occurring BUT it is a plan still. The drain covers on main street were not the correct covers. Correct covers are being located and installed. There is also a storm drain issue in Kent County and the Village of Sand Lake. Areas of storm drain are collapsed, which does not allow storm water to properly discharge. The Council had previously met with Kent County Drain Commission and given them the approval to begin investigating and repairing storm drains. Jon Moxey, from Fleis & Vandenbrink (engineers for downtown street project), is working on finalizing the SAW grant project which is also assisting in figuring out the storm water influx. A lift station will be part of the development, in the future. A new lift station, start to finish, can cost upwards of \$500,000. Discussion was had on whether the expense would be divided amongst homeowners or how it could be financed (bond, financing, take it from the sewer fund, etc.). Sable Homes (John Bitely) said it would be something they would be willing to invest into for the Village during Phase 2 of their project, if Phase 1 has all homes sell.

Public Comment closed 7:30pm

6. **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion Made by Gokey, with support by Jerome, to adopt the agenda with the presentation being struck from the agenda. AIF. Motion Carried.

7. **Administrative Reports**

a. Minutes

i. November 18, 2019 Regular Meeting: Motion Made by Helton, with support by Gokey, to accept and file the November 18, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes as

presented. AIF. Motion Carried.

b. Financial Matters: Brenda informed the Council the Cemetery CD has been renewed for 3 months, as previously discussed.

i. Financial Statements: Motion Made by Helton, with support by Gokey, to accept and file the Financial Statement. AIF. Motion Carried.

ii. Accounts Payable: Motion Made by President Quinlan, with support by Baker, to pay the bills in the amount of Fifty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Thirty-Six Cents (\$56,676.36). AIF. Motion Carried.

~~8. Presentation~~ *cancelled due to weather*

~~——— a. Tranquility Fields~~

9. Department Reports

a. **Fire Department:** Motion Made by Baker, with support by Gokey, to approve Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$2,250) to send five (5) firefighters to Medical First Responder training at Newaygo Fire. AIF. Motion Carried.

Motion Made by Jerome, with support by Baker, to accept and file the Fire Report. AIF. Motion Carried.

b. **Cemetery/Parks and Recreation:** The ordinance is being worked on.

c. **Ordinance**

i. Report on monies received in response to notices:

Quarter 3 had 12 pages, front and back, of delinquent water and/or sewer bills totally around \$25,000. The collection process on delinquent bills has begun. Thus far almost \$12,000 has been collected from these delinquent bills. Some feedback has been they did not realize the postcard was a bill and there should be online payment options.

iii. Resolution to establish disconnect and reconnect fee for water:

Motion Made by President Quinlan, with support from Baker, to establish a failure to pay water disconnect fee of \$40 and a reconnect fee of \$60 once outstanding monies paid in full. **ROLL CALL:**

Glenn Baker- Yes

Tracy Quinlan- Yes

Marcia Helton- Yes

Theresa Jerome- Yes

Rachel Gokey- Yes

Bill Rau- Absent (excused)

Tonia Parkhurst-Absent (excused)

AIF. Motion Carried.

iv. Resolution to establish non-refundable annual application fee for adult-use (recreational) marijuana dispensary.

Motion Made by President Quinlan, with support by Gokey, to establish a Five Thousand Dollar (\$5,000), non-refundable, annual application fee for adult-use (recreational) marijuana dispensaries. **ROLL CALL:**

Glenn Baker- Yes

Tracy Quinlan- Yes

Marcia Helton- Yes

Theresa Jerome- Yes

Rachel Gokey- Yes

Bill Rau- Absent (excused)

Tonia Parkhurst-Absent (excused)

AIF. Motion Carried.

d. **Department of Public Works:** Well pump 3 testing came back with no bacteria present. Unfortunately, the water just smells like sulfur in Well 3. New solar speed signs have been installed. Motion Made by Jerome, with support by President Quinlan, to accept and file the DPW report. AIF. Motion Carried.

e. **Buildings and Grounds**

i. Structural Analysis Report: Motion Made by President Quinlan, with support by Baker, to table discussion of the structural analysis report. AIF. Motion Carried.

ii. Replacement of light post: Motion Made by President Quinlan, with support by Gokey, to table the replacement of the light post until we can ensure that Strain's installation price is included in the quote. AIF. Motion Carried.

f. **Budget and Finance**

i. Resolution to credit back negative balances on water and/or sewer accounts on the December billing (\$392.02): It was brought to the Councils attention that the overages roll over to the next billing. Motion Made by Jerome, with support by Baker, to highlight all water/sewer bills with credits, before they are mailed out, for the December 31,2019 billing cycle. AIF. Motion Carried.

ii. Resolution to transfer Bitely escrow to planning: The Council would like the Clerk to contact the accountant and determine what accounts will be the best to keep it separate and easily able to be tracked.

iii. Resolution to move police cruiser fund to Police Fund: Resolution made to move the police cruiser fund to Police Fund in the amount of Two Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Eight Dollars and Seventy-Eight Cents (\$2428.78).

ROLL CALL:

Glenn Baker- Yes

Tracy Quinlan- Yes

Marcia Helton- Yes

Theresa Jerome- Yes

Rachel Gokey- Yes

Bill Rau- Absent (excused)

Tonia Parkhurst-Absent (excused)

AIF. Motion Carried.

10. **New Business**

Tranquility Fields will be rescheduled for another time and will be a Noticed out Public Meeting.

11. **Old Business**

No old business to discuss.

12. **Council Comments**

Trustee Jerome thanked Tracy Quinlan and Rachel Gokey, as well as the crew of volunteers and the Village DPW team. A lot of time and work went into making the Village festive and it is appreciated.

13. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Motion Made by Baker, with support by ~~Rau~~ Quinlan, to adjourn at 8:34pm. AIF. Motion Carried.

Respectfully yours,

Rachel Gokey

Interim Clerk