

VILLAGE OF SAND LAKE  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
2 E. MAPLE ST  
SAND LAKE, MI 49343  
February 24, 2026 9:00AM

**UNAPPROVED**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Doerr, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Members Present: Doerr, Wright, Stieg, Camilleri, Christensen, Latham  
Council Members Absent: Helton  
Several members of the public in attendance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

A motion to approve the February 24, 2026, agenda as presented was made by Camilleri, supported by Wright. Motion carries.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. A motion to table the consent agenda until the next meeting was made by Camilleri, supported by Latham. Motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** (Limited to 3 minutes per person): The purpose of public comment is to allow the speaker's remarks to be heard, it is not meant to be opportunity to question or debate members of Council and substantive questions on issues will not be responded to. All speakers are required to keep to the 3 minutes time limit. This ensures consistency and fairness.

Public Comment Opened: 9:01 a.m.

-resident: Has seen the information passed around and would like more clarity. Would like to see the Q&A questions answered that the Council was unable to get to at the last meeting. He's a numbers guy. Talk about the disincorporation and is Nelson Township going to cover what the other townships aren't paying like the Village has been making up the difference. This board is getting the raw end because they stepped up and said we can't continue to cover those losses. Wage numbers are skewed taking a whole year and breaking it down, making things look incorrect. Not sure the disincorporation is the best thing for the Village. Per Capita is the fairest way to charge for Fire Services.

-Complaints about resident taking longer than 3 minutes. Brynn Michael: I have seen you shut people down.

-Doerr: responding to first resident that is the purpose of the agenda is to look at the company and hopefully get things to a digestible format for residents.

-Gokey: numbers aren't skewed, \$18,000 a year no matter how many meetings. Per Capita numbers are skewed. Didn't put out Sand Lake's budget believes it is because they are projected to come in under budget. Wages have increased over the last year. 18 Firefighters have quit and signed something to go to Nelson. The posting for the Special meeting is incorrect according to the state statute. Stated the Village President has stated she won't allow the sale of the Fire Department to Nelson Township. Topics in special notices must be put out, and this one wasn't.

-Doerr: Notice came from the Attorney.

Public Comment Closed at 9:13 a.m.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There is no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Communications Services:

- Discussion about the Communications services, cost and length of service needed.

A motion to partner with ChangeMakers and empower Doerr to sign the necessary documents was made by Camilleri, supported by Wright. Stieg-No, Helton-Absent, Christensen-Yes, Doerr-Yes, Latham-Yes, Camilleri-Yes, Wright-Yes. Motion carries.

**COUNCIL COMMENT:**

-Stieg: update on memorandum, heard they had rejected it, wondering if the village had received notice of that.

-Doerr: have not heard officially from the attorney.

-Stieg: question about firefighters to operate

-Doerr: a letter will be sent this week as nothing has been officially turned in to the council.

-Stieg: doesn't want to panic as we still have all the apparatus, would be difficult to build from the ground up.

-Doerr: Tyler has a break down if we had to go down to just covering the Village.

-Stieg: what option discussed

-Doerr: Multiple options were discussed at the Townhall meeting.

-Christensen: have we received an official resignation letter.

-Doerr: no

-Christensen asked a question of resident, Skip:

-resident, Skip: If Nelson took over them saying the Village wouldn't have to pay. There is no free everyone has to pay. Seems to be more political than financial. He didn't know there had been no actual resignations. If that was real they should have already turned that in. If Nelson takes over, are they going to absorb the costs. Just wants to see the real and true numbers. It's hard sitting on the board when you have to make hard decisions. Stieg has been opposed but very respectful. Has lived here in the community since the 80's and it is just not the same close community that it was.

-Wright: referring to Mollie's portion of the slide show he would like to thank Marcia and the Chamber for their help with the basketball court. Carlos for donating woodchips for around the playground. Disappointed that the News Media did not point out any of the good things only the dramatic stuff.

-Doerr: the Q&A cards will be answered.

-resident: asked if there was a way to get numbers from the Treasurer today.

Council Comment Closed at 9:31 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 a.m. was made by Wright, supported by Camilleri. Motion carries.