

Regular Meeting
Village of South Range

July 6th, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the Village of South Range was called to order at **6:00p.m.** by President George Eakin.

Present: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, Tim Korby, Cody Bonini, Paul Saaranen

Kristen Archambeau (Clerk), & Craig Burkman (Street Commissioner)

Absent: Greg Harkonen & Meredith Carney

Guests: Gerald Heikkinen, Steve Sabatini, Craig Paoli, & Sandy Collins

Recognition of Guests:

- **Gerald Heikkinen:**
 - Would like to promote Veteran flags for the whole Township to display in the Village.
 - Stated you would like to take out 30-40 ft of sidewalk in front of his home, stated he would purchase the material if Public Works could do the sidewalk.
- **Steve Sabatini:**
 - Thanked President Eakin for talking to his neighbors about fireworks
- **Craig Paoli:**
 - Had to contact the police about a 3 wheeler issue on his street. Discussed possible speed bumps or slow signs for that area.
- **Sandy Collins:**
 - Came to introduce herself to Council per Therese Parolini, to discuss scanning of historical photos.
 - Council made no motion on the hiring of Sandy Collins to scan photos at this meeting.

Approval of the June 1, 2023 Minutes

Trustee Cody Bonini moved to approve the Minutes from June 1, 2023 **(with change of adding Mr. Sabatini's request to talk to his neighbors about their fireworks & another neighbor's structure).**

Trustee Therese Parolini seconded the motion.

Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby

Nays: None

Abstain:Paul Saaranen

Approval of the June 22, 2023 Minutes

Trustee Cody Bonini made a motion to approve the Minutes from June 22, 2023.

Trustee Tim Korby seconded the motion.

Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby

Nays: None

Abstain: Paul Saaranen

Street Commissioner Report (Presented by President George Eakin)

- Got everything all set for the 4th of July, and taken down
- Discharged lagoons
- 4th of July damage from storm:
 - The 70 ft Flagpole in front of the hall will need to be replaced as it is bent, PW will not be able to take down or put up.
 - PW Garage door was also damaged, PW employees repaired today.
- The tank was removed from in front of the PW garage and the project completed.

Village President Report:

Village President George Eakin updated the Council with the following:

- Talked with Sheriff Saaranen concerning a regular patrol up in Whealkate Estates for the RV/motorcycle problem
- Stated the Jutila's did an awesome job fixing up their home
- Mr. Manninen is requesting speed bumps near the park
- A resident has suggested an increase for utilities water/sewage that we supply for those outside the village once we are now discussing a new lagoon
- Katalina Restaurant looks fantastic
- President Eakin & Clerk Archambeau met with Marc Franchi concerning the parcel he wants to purchase for future development near the Range Towne Apartments
- We received some compliments on our Fireworks and the July 4th celebration in general. Kudos to our Fire Department.
- Spoke with Mrs Aho, she complimented the Village Council concerning recent improvements in town, they're moving forward with the large addition Village Council approved.
- Kudos to Craig Burkman, he received an 89% score on his wastewater treatment test, he's now officially certified to run our lagoons.

Clerk's Report

- Bill Total-The bill total includes an automatic payment for the Water Loan to USDA that was auto paid on 7/5/2023 in the amount of \$23,986.36.
- MDOT Trunkline reports were submitted for reimbursement.
- The annual Consumer Confidence Report was submitted to EGLE and WUPHD on 6/28/2023. Copy of the report was also placed in the Gazette for the July 1st deadline. Copies are available at the Clerk's Office.

- New swings were purchased for the playground as they were in terrible condition. They are an upgraded version with rubber coating on chains to prevent pinching of fingers, and do not get as hot as the black ones that were there. (4) trees were also picked up for the park.
- The 4th of July Parade Permit had new requirements that MDOT requested. Between Public Works and the Clerk, we were able to meet all requirements in less than 24 hours of being contacted.

Thank you to Village Public Works, South Range Fire, Portage Lake Construction & the Houghton County Sheriff's Department for all their help in meeting those requirements.

- Will be working on Quarterly taxes this month.
- Auditor will be here for 3 days the last week of July.
- Will be out of town July 13 & 14.
- The Village Office has received a lot of compliments on this year's fireworks & they stated to thank the South Range Fire Department for putting on a great show.

Action Items:

Drainage

Trustee Therese Parolini made a motion to approve OHM Bid pertaining to drainage issues on Fourth, Fifth, & Sixth Streets.

Trustee Cody Bonini supported the motion.

Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby

Nays: None

Parcel Bids

Trustee Therese Parolini made a motion to accept the Bid in the amount of \$9,500.00 made by Marc Franchi for Parcel lot #31-045-070-005-50 with m/l 4.5 acres.

Trustee Tim Korby supported the motion.

Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby

Nays: None

Speed Bumps

*Council requested that Public Works put in speed bumps on Sixth & Seventh Streets, but make vehicles able to straddle the speed bumps to slow traffic near the park.

Payment of the Bills

Trustee Paul Saaranen made a motion to pay the bills totalling **\$56,592.86**

With \$45,267.87 in old bills, and \$11,324.99 in new bills.

Trustee Tim Korby seconded the motion.

Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby

Nays: None

Poll of Trustees

Cody Bonini: VOSR Fire Department Update

-Won First Place at the Fire Tournament, due to a miscalculation in points the trophy will be shared with Hancock. This is the first time in Village history First Place has been taken.

-There were (3) Fire calls on the 4th of July

-No issues during fireworks on the 4th.

Therese Parolini:

-Questioned the pay of a part-time employee. Part-time employee hourly pay increased in June 2022 from \$12 to \$15/hr.

-Stated that part-time is only up to 20 hours per week. Part-time hours in the handbook does not specify up to the amount of hours, but does state part-time employees are not eligible for benefits. Clerk Archambeau stated that Public Works was busy with several line issues, 4th of July requests, MissDigs, etc. Trustee Parolini stated that Public Works does not need to follow Miss Dig around as they do the marking, not the Village Public Works.

-Requested that there be a breakdown of comp time at each meeting for all employees.

-Questioned why there were no Public Works on July 5th. Stating the Holiday was on the 4th. Clerk Archambeau stated she was in the office on July 5th, and received no calls or requests for Public Works.

Paul Saaranen:

-Requested a procedure for a purchase policy

-Requested a thank you to EGLE for the help in the Village

Tim Korby:

-Asked about the Meeting times on the website, Clerk Archambeau will contact Kerry Jutila to change the website. Clerk Archambeau will contact OPUSWeb for an update on the new website.

Adjournment

Trustee Paul Saaranen moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Trustee Cody Bonini seconded the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen,
& Tim Korby*

Nays: None