

VILLAGE OF SOUTH RANGE
REGULAR MEETING
November 7, 2024
6:00 pm
APPROVED

The Regular Meeting of the Village of South Range Council was held on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at the Village of South Range Community Hall; 45 Trimountain Avenue; South Range, MI 49963

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. The following council members were present: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Korby, Trustee Parolini & Trustee Saaranen. Member: Trustee Bonini was absent. There were 3 guests in attendance. Others Present Village Employee Assistant Public Works Director Swetich, Clerk Archambeau.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

G. Heikkinen (Adams Twp. Supervisor) discussed the sewer rates, and removing sludge from lagoons. B. Heltunen discussed his rental on First & Globe St., and asked if the South Range Fire Dept. could fill the ice rink in his yard. President Eakin will talk to Chief Balma. J. Pindral discussed issues with loose dogs, will fill out a complaint form and return. Clerk Archambeau will let her know once the letter is mailed out.

MOTION made by Trustee Harkonen, with support from Trustee Saaranen to approve the October 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Saaranen, Trustee Korby, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Harkonen, & Trustee Marier. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Harkonen to approve the October 20, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Saaranen, & Trustee Parolini. Nays: Trustee Korby, & Trustee Harkonen. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

STREET COMMISSIONER REPORT (Presented by D. Swetich)

Assistant Public Works Director Swetich presented the following updates: D. Swetich took the Water Test the first week of November. Hydrants were pumped out and drained, new tires on the dump truck, patched blacktop, painted the inside of the shop, and the new pump for the lift station arrived. PW has started fall discharge. Stated that the new hires are doing a wonderful job.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Eakin: Reported he met with M. Franchi to look over progress on his property, and also met with C. Holmes (UPEA) and M. Franchi to discuss possible utility hook ups. Stated the approved driveway from the Special October 20th Meeting was completed, B. Maki is no longer

requesting a reimbursement for his flooded basement, and received a complaint of the smell of dog feces from a property on Second St. Will be contacting Scott MacInnes & Jeff Ratcliffe about coming to a Council meeting to discuss the process of a new Village Charter. President Eakin will have his annual letter ready for the regular December meeting to present to the Council for approval prior to mailing.

CLERK REPORT:

Clerk Archambeau: Requested the approval of the annual insurance policy, and quarterly taxes were submitted on time.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

President Eakin inquired if there were any questions or concerns regarding the October 2024 bills, if none, asked for a motion to approve payment of the bills. Bills totaling: \$201,192.62, with \$178,472.07 in old bills, and \$43,095.16 in new bills. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Saaranen, & Trustee Parolini. Nays: Trustee Korby, & Trustee Harkonen.

MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS-UNFINISHED/NEW:

Trustee Harkonen made a motion to donate \$600 to the South Range Fire Dept. for the Christmas in South Range event. Trustee Marier supported the motion. **VOTE: All Ayes.**

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Marier made a motion to pay the municipal insurance policy through Hannula Insurance. Trustee Harkonen supported the motion. **VOTE: All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED**

Village of South Range

2024 Treasurer Report

The Treasurer's Report said that the 2024 property tax millage rate was 15.1127 mills (General, 12.183700; Local Street, 2.929000). The taxable value is \$15,769,749.00 which is up from last year's value of \$15,124,630.00.

Of the \$243,373.03 in total taxes, (Gen: \$192,131.83, Loc: \$46,187.53, 1% fee: \$2,381.25, Sp Assessments: \$2,672.42), \$214,355.42 was collected and \$27,815.50 were delinquent, \$1,202.11 delinquent water (last year: \$206,951.17 collected, \$16,884.54 delinquent, and \$4,132.91 delinquent water).

The pro rata distribution of the \$214,355.42 of the collected taxes is: General Fund \$169,897.63, Local Street Fund \$40,843.93, 1% Administration fee \$2,143.55 and Sp Assessments \$1,470.31.

A motion was made by Justin Marier and seconded by Tim Korby to accept the treasurer's report.

VOTE:

Aye: George Eakin, Justin Marier, Greg Harkonen, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby

Nay: None
Absent: Cody Bonini

A motion was made by Justin Marier and seconded by Greg Harkonen to authorize the transfer of the \$214,355.42 in taxes collected to be made from the Agency Fund as Follows:
\$169,897.63 to Local Street (100% of the amount due to Local Street)
\$40,843.93 to the General Fund, and
\$2,143.55 to the General Fund, 1% Collection Fee.

VOTE:
Aye: George Eakin, Justin Marier, Greg Harkonen, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby
Nay: None

All of the delinquent taxes collected by the county after 9/16/2024 will be deposited into the General Fund when the county makes the payment to the village from its revolving fund.

PROPERTY TAX COLLECTION RESOLUTION, 2024: A motion was made by Paul Saaranen and was seconded by Justin Marier to adopt the following resolution: "Property Taxes will be collected by the Village and must be paid to the Village Treasurer until the 15th of September. Thereafter all unpaid taxes must be paid to the Houghton County Treasurer. Taxes may be paid to the Village Treasurer without penalty through September 15, 2025 Payments made to the Village Treasurer after that date will be delinquent and subject to an interest charge of 1.5% per month or partial month of delinquency and a one-time late payment fee of 4% (\$1.00 minimum)."

VOTE:
Aye: George Eakin, Justin Marier, Greg Harkonen, Therese Parolini, Paul Saaranen, & Tim Korby
Nay: None

POLL OF TRUSTEES: President Eakin discussed employee evaluations, informed the council that Trustee Saaranen's position will expire this month, and the council will need to post the trustee position in December. Trustee Korby would like to look at getting a map made of the areas that are within the Village. Trustee Saaranen suggested sending more than (1) letter a year to residents.

With no further business brought before the Council, a MOTION at 8:06PM by Trustee Saaranen with support from Trustee Korby. VOTE: All ayes. MOTION CARRIED.
Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Kristen Archambeau, Village of South Range Clerk
Kristen Archambeau