

VILLAGE OF SOUTH RANGE
REGULAR MEETING

July 09, 2026

6:00 pm

The Regular Meeting of the Village of South Range Council was held on Thursday July 09, 2026 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 Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Korby & Trustee Balma. There were 5 guests in attendance. Others present: Clerk Schwandt, Deputy Clerk Dorsey, Assistant S.C. Swetich

PUBLIC COMMENT:

M. Lompre expressed her concern with a neighboring property being in violation of the dangerous building ordinance and requested further and immediate action from the council. She does not want to see further issues arise from the council neglecting to take action.

S. Sabatini asked whether information regarding ordinance violation letters could be made available to the public in the future, including which properties or residents have received notices, so the community is aware of ongoing enforcement efforts. He further asked if a part-time enforcement officer can be issued in the Village.

M. Harma stated that the 4th of July in South Range was great. Furthermore, she asked what the current policy for ordinance letters are. President Eakin said he will discuss that further in the meeting.

President Eakin asked to add CDL to the agenda. Trustee Marier made a motion to add "Commercial Driver's License" to the agenda. Trustee Harkonen seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Harkonen to approve the June 04 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: Trustee Korby. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Harkonen to approve the Thursday, June 18, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: Trustee Parolini. MOTION CARRIED.

STREET COMMISSIONER REPORT

Assistant S.C. D. Swetich reported that public works was extremely busy preparing for the 4th of July in South Range. Furthermore, the Village road lines and parking spots were all repainted. There was a water leak near 4th St and M26 that needed immediate attention that was successfully located and fixed. Fire hydrants were serviced and a lagoon inspection was completed by public works and EGLE. Moving forward, sidewalks will start being repaired starting with previous resident requests. Lastly, D. Swetich reported that C. Burkman had not yet obtained his Commercial Driver's License.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Eakin reported that he drove the federal fire truck in the parade for the 4th of July. He commented that the breaks do need immediate attention to get fixed for future rides. President Eakin dedicated time to cutting grass at a vacant property due to a resident's complaint that the owner is not maintaining the lawn. Furthermore, the South Range junk ordinance is in effect and residents may see letters in the mail if they are in violation. Lastly, President Eakin told Public Works to remove the stop sign at the top of Trimountain Avenue permanently.

CLERK REPORT:

Topics for the clerks report will be discussed in the agenda items.

FIRE REPORT:

Chief Balma reported that the 4th of July went very well for the Fire Department. The department hosted a pulled pork food benefit and also set off all of the fireworks for the 4th of July festival. The yearly wood raffle was completed and the winner notified. The department acquired new radios utilizing a DNR-funded grant. Lastly, the department attended the annual firemen's tournament that was hosted by Calumet.

BUSINESS-UNFINISHED/NEW:

A community clean-up was discussed for South Range residents. Trustee Balma motioned to approve the community clean-up funded by the Village of South Range with dates and details to be selected by the Village Clerk. Trustee Harkonen seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

The Treasurer's wages were discussed at the meeting. Trustee Harkonen motioned to increase the Treasurer's Monthly wage to \$300/mo, seconded by Trustee Parolini. These wages will begin June 2026.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Korby

Nays: None. Abstain: Trustee Balma. MOTION CARRIED.

As stated in the June meeting, it was discovered that the swing sets and see-saws on the 7th street park are not on Village property. The council decided to remove the park equipment that is not located on the Village property, including the swing set and see-saws. The council would like to look into grants for future park improvements.

The South Range sick time policy was reviewed. Trustee Korby motioned to update the South Range Village sicktime policy to include part-time employees, seconded by Trustee Marier.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

The Council reviewed two proposals for servicing the Village's fire extinguishers. A decision was postponed until a third proposal can be obtained. .

The village council designated the intersection of Fourth and Globe, along with the section of road between the community hall and Miner's State Bank, as the priority areas for repaving this year. The council directed that bids be requested from local contractors for completion of the project.

Trustee Parolini moved to terminate Cooper Burkman's employment with the Village due to his failure to obtain a commercial driver's license by the agreed-upon deadline. Trustee Marier seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

Trustee Marier motioned to delay posting the open position until further notice, seconded by Trustee Harkonen.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

President Eakin inquired if there were any questions or concerns regarding the June 2026 bills. Trustee Korby motioned to approve payment of the bills, totaling: \$41,698.91, seconded by Trustee Harkonen.

Roll call: Ayes: Trustee Marier, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Hill, Trustee Balma

Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

With no further business brought before the Council, Trustee Balma motioned to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:45PM with support from Trustee Marier.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, Trustee Hill, Trustee Harkonen

MOTION CARRIED - Meeting adjourned.