Trustee's Report to the Village Planning Commission
July 2024

The regular meeting of the Village Council was held on June 11. 2024.

Clerk Scott submitted the monthly bill sheets and cash reconciliation statement.

Treasurer Simons mailed tax statements and village calendar of events on June 26. The blood drive exceeded targets with 30 appointments and 26 pints collected. The next drive will be held on September 27.

DPW Superintendent Holton provided a written report. Highlights include:

- Assisted Commissioner Newell in planting several trees.
- With the County Road Commission, completed dust control treatment of gravel roads.
- Obtained bids for 4th Street drainage mitigation project.
- Oversaw closure of High Street and termination of utilities at the old hospital as demolition begins.
- Coordinating with Leelanau Community Energy, LLC on removal of the wind turbine tower.
- Plans to build a small pedestrian bridge over the stormwater retention basin at the north of the marina parking lot were placed on hold pending more information on cost, ADA accessibility, alternatives and funding sources.

The Harbormaster provided a written report that included the following items:

- Boat Traffic: Boat traffic remains about 10% below expected levels. Other area marinas are down as well.
- Swimming Buoys: The swimming buoys have been installed at South Beach. Buoys at Haserot Beach will be placed when the anchors arrive.
- Goose Control: The geese are back, but the issue is manageable.
- Incidents: On July 7, a dock hand noted a minor gas spill at the Marina, estimated at less than one cup. Emergency Services were unable to determine the source.

Manager Dyer provided a written report highlighting several items for discussion and/or action. Other updates include:

- DNR has met with representatives of each entity to discuss the 7th Street land swap with theTownship and parameters for a joint maintenance agreement were discussed. Appraisals of the parcels in question are underway and DNR offered suggestions on how the appraisals would be evaluated.
- Excavation has begun at the old hospital site and exterior demolition should start soon.
- EGLE was on site at the Mill Pond July 8. No further enforcement action will occur following last year's accidental drawdown. Permit applications submitted last June to begin repairs, will be revised based on EGLE recommendations. If approved, measured and controlled drawdowns as necessary to maintain the pond level and assure continued downstream flow over five years.
- Recommended approval of a vendor permit to allow a mobile business to rent e-bicycles on two non-consecutive Saturdays between July 20 and the end of August. Trustees agreed with the recommendation.

Finance Committee minutes from June were provided. There was no July meeting.

Infrastructure report was provided by Chair Cavendish, highlighting work on the wind turbine removal and progress on developing a CIP.

Minutes from the June Planning Commission meeting were provided.

The following items were discussed by the Trustees:

- The Manager proposed creation of a number of financial policies to align with audit recommendations and clarify authority. Trustees asked staff to begin drafting policies for review by the Finance/Budget Committee.
- There was a robust discussion of the current structure of the Village Council with several standing committees that meet on a monthly basis and bring recommendations to the full council for discussion/action. The Manager has proposed elimination of routine committee meetings, with the exception of Budget/Finance which could meet quarterly. The Council could instead meet twice per month with the first meeting devoted to proposals and discussion, the second meeting would focus on actions/decisions. The Trustees reached consensus that two evening meetings per month should be further studied by staff with a more detailed proposal to follow.

- The Manager has studied options for providing additional public restrooms in the downtown business district. The Planning Commission has included public restrooms on the CIP for several years. Trustees do not wish to see Port-a-Johns. Mr. Dyer has pricing information on a moveable, multiple unit restroom facility that could be placed in the municipal lot on Waukazoo. Scheduled maintenance is included. A six-month lease offered a break in pricing on a weekly basis, but the Trustees did not believe restrooms would be needed into January. Mr. Dyer was directed to pursue a lease not to exceed $7,500 beginning as soon as possible and terminating after Labor Day.

The following actions were taken by the Trustees:

- The 2024 Zoning Ordinance was approved with the three approved amendments that address treatment of existing residential structures in the Core Commercial District, establish light pollution limits in accessory structures with smaller setbacks and make technical corrections identified by the Planning Commission. The Trustees referred the matter of language regarding shoreline setback restrictions back to the Planning Commission.
- Accepted the bid of Kal Excavating as the lowest responsible bidder, awarded the contract, authorized the proposed budget transfer, and authorized the Village Manager to sign the contract and all necessary documents to complete the project.
- Approved a motion to appropriate up to $15,000 and directed the Village Manager to organize a Village trash collection event to occur prior to September 30, 2024 if possible.
- Scheduled a hearing on August 8, 2024 to consider two zoning variance requests.

Prepared by Jane Gale