

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Deborah Lindley called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Lindley were James Bracewell and Blake O'Halloran. Paul Leonard and Steve Slater were not in attendance as they were out of town.

ADOPT AGENDA

Lindley moved, seconded by Bracewell to adopt the February 19, 2020 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Village Council Minutes:
 - i. Regular Council Meeting, January 15, 2020
- b. Hall Rental Requests
 - i. April 3, 2020
 - ii. June 6, 2020 – Approved by the Social Club
 - iii. June 20, 2020 – Approved by the Social Club
- c. Pay Bills with Written Additions

Lindley moved, seconded by Bracewell to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

Lindley welcomed Dan Petersen, the new Executive Director of The Pokagon Fund. Petersen said he has been on the job for a little over two weeks and he looks forward to working with the council in the future.

COMMISSION REPORTS

BUILDING & ZONING: Bracewell said that they are making progress with a couple of property owners that they have been having trouble with and are waiting for everything to be in writing before discussing it.

PARKS & BEACHES: Slater was not in attendance. Lindley said that she and Ellen Frankle of Grand Beach Land Development met with two different appraisal companies today and road on an ATV with them in the 42 Acres. She said the Village received a bid from Donkersloot for work at the pumphouse and Walnut Beach access and it will be \$8,000-\$9,000 more than the original agreement. She said the Parks & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan was accepted by the state, so we can start the process of applying for new grants.

STREETS & WATER: Leonard was not in attendance.

POLICE: Lindley thanked Village employees Tim Pendergast and Jamie Flick who have been working to make the police department look more welcoming.

PRO SHOP & COURSE: O'Halloran said that the Village has a fleet of rental carts, and they have tried to update them through the years. There are three carts that are 15 years old and he is hoping to replace them in the next budget year. He said that the Village is ordering 12 of the personalized bricks that people have ordered to be installed outside the pro shop, and will continue to offer the brick program throughout the summer. The money raised from the bricks will be used to improve the pro shop.

SERVISCAPE REPORT

Clay Putnam reported that the tractor that was sent out for warranty work is back. He said that cross country skiers should avoid the staked areas on the golf course when skiing and make sure that there is plenty of snow on the ground. A few skiers skied across the greens when the snow wasn't deep enough, so there are a couple of scuff marks on the greens.

PERSONNEL REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: In addition to his written report, Superintendent Bob Dabbs said he would like to use the \$8,000 that is set aside for tree removal and trimming. He has bids for \$7,000 to remove two trees and also needs to have other trees trimmed.

Lindley moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the use the \$8,000 that is set aside in Local and Major Street funds for tree removal and trimming. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

POLICE CHIEF: In addition to his written report, Police Chief Ryan Layman reported that he, Lindley and Flick met about the budget and he looks forward to the first budget meeting. He and Flick are currently working on a policy and procedure manual for both departments.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Building Inspector Bill Lambert said that the new projects are going very well. He said that Mr. Hunter is hiring a local contractor to help get the frame of the house done. Lambert will meet with him next week.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

GOLF CART PARKING FEES

O'Halloran said the golf cart parking sticker fees were not increased last year and he would like to raise the fees by \$5. He said that the non-resident fees are already pretty high, so those will not be increased. The additional money raised will be used towards replacing the flooring in the pro shop. Lindley reminded people that carts that are not stickered will be ticketed and fined.

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Lindley to increase the cost of golf cart parking sticker fees by \$5 from \$235 to \$240 for those paid before May 1, from \$260 to \$265 for those paid before June 1 and from \$285 to \$290 for those paid after June 1. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

GOLF FEES

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Lindley to raise the power cart rental fees for 2020 to \$12 for 9 holes and \$18 for 18 holes and to raise the 9 holes non-resident weekday green fees from \$13.50 to \$15. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

FENCE – PURCHASE MATERIALS

Lindley said that the Village received a generous donation for \$15,000 to replace the white fence along the golf course and Grand Beach Road. The original cost to replace the fence was \$18,000 for materials which would need to be cut. Tim Pendergast found a place that will pre-cut the fence and the Village will just need to assemble it with the cost being under \$15,000. The fence will be made of a material that will last for a long time and won't need to be painted.

Regular Council Meeting – February 19, 2020

Lindley moved, seconded by Bracewell to direct Superintendent Bob Dabbs to place the order for the replacement fence materials at a cost not to exceed the \$15,000 that was donated for the purchase of a new fence. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

GRAND BEACH REPRESENTATIVE TO NEW BUFFALO SHORELINE ALLIANCE OPENING

Lindley explained that last month Steve Slater offered to serve as the representative to the New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance since Cynthia Denning resigned, but it didn't come to a vote of the Council. She said she appreciates Slater's offer, but since the council is the final hearing board, it would be nice to have a resident serve on the board. She would strongly suggest that anyone interested be a member of the Shoreline Alliance. Anyone that is interested should submit letters of interest to Clerk Mary Robertson by March 11, 2020 so that the Council can appoint someone at the March meeting.

DEVELOP SURVEY OF PEOPLE SELLING THEIR HOMES

Lindley said there have been a lot of people saying that people are selling their homes in Grand Beach for this reason or that reason. She thinks that by sending a survey to those selling their homes, we can get away from the speculation as to why they are selling and if there is something that can be fixed, we can work towards fixing it. O'Halloran said that he's not sure there are more homes for sale now than in the past and that this is an aging community and some of them might be moving to Florida full time. Bracewell suggested that Lindley talk to realtor Dan Coffey about the reasons people are selling their homes because he keeps good statistics on sales in the area and might have insight. Lindley said she will talk to different realtors about this and report back to the Council.

PROPERTY, LIABILITY & AUTO INSURANCE

Lindley said that the insurance has increased by approximately \$1,000 or 2% over last year's premium. There will be a rebate of \$1,976 that will bring the premium down to \$27,787. She directed Clerk Mary Robertson to have the insurance company move forward with the annual renewal.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Lindley moved, seconded by O'Halloran to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer