

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 17, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council president pro-tem Blake O'Halloran called the regular council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. EST. Present in addition to O'Halloran were James Bracewell, Paul Leonard Jr. and Steve Slater. Deborah Lindley was not in attendance.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Leonard moved, seconded by Slater to adopt the July 17, 2019 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approve Village Council Minutes:
  - i. Regular Council Meeting, June 19, 2019
- b. Hall Rental Request – Rebecca Votava, September 7, 2019
- c. Pay Bills with Written Additions

Slater moved, seconded by Leonard to adopt the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION**

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

**BUILDING & ZONING:** Bracewell reported that Ms. Ruffner has obtained a demolition permit for her garage and has asked permission to use a pod to store the contents of the house. Building Inspector Bill Lambert told the Council that she has not yet been given permission for the pod. Bracewell said the owner of a home being constructed on Oak Avenue was given six months to complete the home, and two months of the six months have already passed. The Village will send a letter to the owner and let him know that he needs to move forward.

Bracewell stated that George Soper's term on the Planning Commission which was filled by Frank Giglio expires in August. Giglio has expressed an interest to remain on the Planning Commission. Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Commission for a 4-year term should direct their interest to Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson.

**PARKS & BEACHES:** Slater reported that they are in full swing with the Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan. They have received 251 surveys for the plan so far and will continue to take surveys through July 31, 2019. There will be a public meeting for questions and answers on Saturday, July 27 at 10:00 a.m. CST – 11:00 a.m. EST in the Council room with Tricia Bulson of Abonmarch.

**STREETS & WATER:** Leonard reported that normal maintenance and water testing activities continue.

**POLICE:** Lindley was not in attendance.

**PRO SHOP & GOLF COURSE:** O'Halloran reported that the month of June was very good, ahead of June 2017 and 2018. He said that Clay Putnam and ServiScape has done a great job maintaining the golf course.

**SERVISCAPE REPORT**

Clay Putnam reported that routine maintenance is ongoing. Bunkers have been edged and they have pruned limbs along #7. They installed signs around the golf course concerning the cicada wasps and said the cicadas are not interested in people and are not aggressive at all and will be gone in about a month.

## **PERSONNEL REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT:** In addition to his written report, Superintendent Bob Dabbs stated that they replaced the “no jumping” signs on the jetty at the pump house.

**INTERIM POLICE CHIEF:** Interim Police Chief Jamie Flick reported that in June, they handled 18 complaints in Grand Beach and 35 in Michiana. We are starting to get complaints about people jumping from the piers and jetty and he reminded everyone not to jump from the pier and jetty because it is very dangerous and there is an ordinance against it. O’Halloran said it is really, really dangerous and things change all the time with the waves and sand being churned up. Flick stated that Grand Beach residents should not park their golf carts in “no parking” areas in Michiana because they will be ticketed. He reminded everyone to keep their cars locked and not to leave valuables in their cars.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR:** Building Inspector Bill Lambert informed the Council that Grand Beach Land Development requested a land division of a parcel of land located between Robin Lane and East Arnold. He and Clerk-Treasurer Mary Robertson went through everything together and the application was approved.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **42 Acres Update**

O’Halloran reminded everyone of the fundraiser that will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2019. As of 7/11/19, the Village has received \$184,653 in donations, and with \$58,000 from The Pokagon Fund, we still need to raise an additional \$245,347.

### **Chief Dan Schroeder – Continuation of Sick/Vacation/Insurance**

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to continue to pay Chief Dan Schroeder’s sick, vacation and insurance as in the past and reevaluate this next month. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

### **Bid - Clean Water Tower**

Leonard moved, seconded by Slater to approve a bid from Liquid Engineering in the amount of \$2,860 subject to the \$300 rider to clean the water tower. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

### **Bids - Royal Avenue Non-Motorized Path**

O’Halloran said the Council received bids to put a non-motorized path in from the arch along the left side of Royal Avenue to Station Road. Bids were received from C and H Concrete, Dennis Duetscher Construction and Workman Concrete. He reviewed the bids and wants to make sure that all of the contractors are bidding on the same thing since the bids all looked different. Slater is in the concrete business and said that the contractors bid differently on several things, so in order to standardize what they are bidding on, he developed a scope of work sheet for Superintendent Bob Dabbs to give to the contractors.

Bracewell was concerned with landscaping that a homeowner put in along Royal. Dabbs said he spoke with the homeowner and he is okay with everything. He said the homeowner’s property markers are still there which allows them to know where the property line is. Dabbs said there is a little bit of trimming necessary and he doesn’t see a need to move any landscaping.

Robertson explained that the Village is required to spend 1% a year or 10% over 10 years of the ACT 51 street funding on non-motorized facilities such as this. The project could be paid for with street funding which is not

to be used for anything other than streets and non-motorized facilities.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to table the subject. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**Budget Amendment – Major Street Fund 2018-2019**

This was not necessary since the non-motorized path was tabled.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Golf Cart Purchase**

O'Halloran explained that someone ran a rental golf cart into a tree on the golf course and paid \$1,000 for the damages to the fairly old cart. He said it doesn't make sense to repair an old cart, so rather than spend money to repair the cart; LanCam will take everything out of the old cart and put it into the shell of a 2011 cart for a total cost of \$2,000, costing the Village \$1,000.

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Bracewell that instead of repairing the old golf cart at a cost of \$1,000, to spend an additional \$1,000 for a total cost of \$2,000 to purchase a used 2011 cart. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**Test Well Proposal**

O'Halloran explained that he has been trying to move forward on an alternative source of irrigation for the golf course and is very concerned with the pump house. The Village is still trying to get a permit and armor stone down at the pump house to protect it. He doesn't think the Village should spend the money right now for the test well with the Village trying to purchase the Grand Beach Nature Preserve, and he would like to see numbers in a proposal for the well.

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Leonard to table this until the August meeting. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**Budget Amendments 2018-2019 – Golf & Capital Projects Funds**

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Bracewell to approve a budget amendment for the Golf Fund 2018-2019 to cover the cost of the used golf cart purchase. Motion carried unanimously 4-0. The Capital Projects Fund Budget Amendment was not necessary since the Test Well Proposal was tabled.

**Indiana Michigan Power Company Contracts – LED Street Light Replacement**

Leonard explained that the State of Michigan is requiring Indiana Michigan Power Company to replace all of their existing street lights with LED lights. They are spending about \$4M and will save money by using the LED lights, but the contract amount will be the same to the Village. He said the Village has two separate contracts for the street lights for different types of lighting. He has reviewed the contracts and said they are standard contracts.

Leonard moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve both contracts with Indiana Michigan Power Company to replace the street lights with LED lights as presented. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

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**Resolution #2019-06 – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Amendments**

Mary Robertson explained why the state made amendments to the FOIA. O'Halloran read the changes to the Village's FOIA procedures and guidelines.

Leonard moved, seconded by Slater to adopt resolution #2019-06 Freedom of Information (FOIA) Act amendments and changes to the procedures and guidelines to bring them into compliance with the State of Michigan requirements. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

**AUDIENCE RECOGNITION**

Village resident Saranne Milano is concerned with the progress of the home under construction on Oak Street. She asked the Council to consider making the Village Hall handicap accessible as it is becoming difficult for many people to attend functions upstairs. She suggested applying for a grant from The Pokagon Fund and is willing to write the grant for the Village. Bracewell explained that in the Village's last remodel project, we spent a significant amount of money to make the bathrooms handicap accessible. He will keep this in mind for the next remodel of the building as he knows the Village is aging. Resident Barb Rooney suggested a chair elevator.

Village resident Katherine Kelly said there recently was a prisoner that escaped from the Indiana State Prison and she feels residents should have been notified.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received.

**John Deaner – 42 Acres**

John Deaner told the Council that he is disappointed that we are down to the last month on the 42 Acres and there is no Plan B to move ahead if donations don't cover the required matching funds. He asked about the location of the stakes for the Walnut beach access survey.

**John Rafkin – Gas Powered Equipment Noise**

**Local Revenue Sharing Board – Annual Specific Costs**

The Village does not have any annual specific costs associated with the casino.

**Mike & Maggie Sayles – Condition of Property on West McKean**

**State of Michigan "Road Diet" – US Highway 12**

Leonard said that MDOT sent a letter to our Interim Police Chief which says that the state is planning a complete resurfacing project in 2021 of US Highway 12 and a "road diet" is being considered as part of this work from the state line to New Buffalo. He explained that there is a four lane highway now, which would shrink down to three lanes with one of them a center turn lane. He said no decisions have been made and there will be a meeting in Coloma in the fall. O'Halloran said this is a big deal and he is not favor of it and he wants residents to understand what is proposed. If it comes down to this, he said Grand Beach is going to need something such as stop light that might change to yellow during the winter months.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 4-0. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Robertson  
Clerk-Treasurer