

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Harry Walder called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Walder were James Bracewell, Edward Brandes, Peter Doerr and Blake O'Halloran.

ADOPT AGENDA

Brandes moved, seconded by Doerr to adopt the January 18, 2023 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Village Council Minutes:
 - i. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2022
- b. Pay Bills with Written Additions

Brandes moved, seconded by Doerr to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

None

COMMISSION REPORTS

BUILDING & ZONING: Walder said that the Village attorney will be filing another ticket with the courts regarding the Hunter property located in the Fifteen Acres. He said that the attorney said the Village should have approval from the judge in 6-8 weeks in order to move forward with the demolition of the building under construction.

PARKS & BEACHES: Doerr said that the office recently sent letters to property owners adjacent to the beach accesses regarding landscaping on the access that creates a liability for the Village. He said the Village wants the property owners to indemnify the Village. The letter also states that property owners will need Village approval to put anything on an access. He said there will be a parks and recreation meeting in February.

STREETS & WATER: Bracewell stated that they are making progress on the Environmental Great Lake & Energy report which is due on June 1, 2023. He said Rob Andrew of Merritt Midwest is assisting Superintendent Bob Dabbs with the report. He said the guys did a great job of removing snow from the streets over the holidays.

POLICE: Brandes said that Police Chief Ryan Layman gave him a briefing on the Village. He said he rode along with Layman one day and found it very helpful. Brandes said he will be meeting with the Police Commissioner of Michiana and will work to create a police advisory board.

PRO SHOP & COURSE: O'Halloran said the golf committee has only met once, and he would like to start meeting again. He said the Council needs to plan for replacement of the golf course irrigation system. He said he would like to put a canopy over the leased golf carts to protect them from the weather.

SERVISCAPE REPORT

Clay Putnam said the winter equipment maintenance is ongoing. He said he has not observed any snowmobile activity on the golf course.

PERSONNEL REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: In addition to his written report, Superintendent Bob Dabbs said the guys have been repairing damaged street signs, have removed the sediment from the drywells and have been filling potholes. They will start removing the dead pine trees along Grand Beach Road soon.

POLICE CHIEF: In addition to his written report, Chief Ryan Layman warned residents to be aware of who they have working for them, adding that someone who was working someone stole a lot of jewelry. He said they have recovered most of the jewelry which is very unusual. He said the lady that drove across the golf course was finally arrested and has a court date scheduled for March. He said that Chikaming Open Lands had a scavenger hunt for wooden snowmen and they were very disappointed that a snowman that was located in the Grand Beach Marsh Preserve was taken. Layman said that he has done 17 rental inspections so far, and will have a formal report next month.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Bill Lambert was not in attendance. Chad Butler said that there are 19 homes going up and a total of 24 building permits. He said they are making the rounds and checking on things.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REQUEST USE OF LAKE AVENUE BEACH ACCESS FOR REVETMENT WORK

Devon Moore of Triple D Excavating attended the meeting to ask for permission to use the Lake Avenue beach access to do repair work on revetment located at 50005 High Point. He said that they have not submitted their application to EGLE yet, and expect that they won't be ready until after April 1. Walder told him that they won't be able to do any work after Memorial Day.

Moore said the work involves bringing the material in on a semi-truck, using heavy machinery to load material onto off-shore trucks which will go down on the beach and drive to the area where they will be working. He said it will take approximately 2-3 weeks to complete the work.

Moore was told that by the Council that when he is finished, he will have to repair the access to the way it was before the work or better. Walder told him he will have to provide a signed hold harmless agreement and insurance to the Village. The Council also informed Moore that they are working on a fee that will be charged for the use of the access.

The matter was tabled and will be added to the February agenda.

APPOINT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER TO PARTIAL TERM ENDING AUGUST 31, 2025

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Doerr to appoint Paul Leonard to the Planning Commission with a term ending August 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPOINT PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER TO PARTIAL TERM ENDING AUGUST 31, 2024

Doerr moved, seconded by Brandes to appoint Elizabeth Grim Vaughn to the Planning Commission with a term ending August 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Walder said that the Council approves the Rules of Procedure for Council meetings after each election. O'Halloran

moved, seconded by Brandes to approve the Rules of Procedure as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

REPEAL WAGE ORDINANCE NO. 46

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Brandes to adopt an ordinance to repeal ordinance no. 46 as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PROPOSAL FOR WATER DEPARTMENT COMPUTER & SOFTWARE

Bracewell moved, seconded by O'Halloran to purchase a new computer, telemetry system and software for the water department from Peerless Midwest at a cost of \$8,460. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PURCHASE TV MONITOR AND MOUNTING BRACKETS FOR COUNCIL ROOM

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Doerr to purchase a 43" TV and brackets at a cost not to exceed \$500 and to amend the General Fund budget for miscellaneous Council expenses in the amount of \$500. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PURCHASE TV MONITOR AND MOUNTING BRACKETS FOR BUILDING INSPECTION

Brandes moved, seconded by O'Halloran to purchase a 50" TV and brackets for the Building Inspection department at a cost not to exceed \$500, and to amend the Building Inspection Fund budget for office supplies in the amount of \$500. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

PURCHASE IPAD AND CELLULAR SERVICE FOR BUILDING INSPECTION FUND

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Brandes to purchase an iPad and cellular service for the Building Inspection department to look at drawings and to take pictures while out in the field with the iPad not to exceed \$1,500 and the cellular service not to exceed \$300, and to amend the Building Inspection Fund budget for office supplies in the amount of \$1,500 and telephone and internet expenses in the amount of \$300. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

O'Halloran stated that funds in the Building Inspection fund can only be used for expenses related to Building Inspection.

DISCUSS BEACH ACCESS USE AND FEE OF \$10,000

Walder said that he thinks the Council needs to do more research before deciding on beach access use fees to be charged. He said the goal is to charge a fee for any major work from the access that puts the Village at risk and takes time. There was discussion regarding the times of year that work on the beach access will not be allowed, and the Council will work on a case-by-case situation if there is an emergency need for the use of the access. The Council also discussed different fees for work being done outside of the Village and work being done for property owners in the Village. There was discussion about establishing a sliding fee scale depending on the type of work.

The matter was tabled and will be added to the February agenda.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Walder said that Berrien County has been working with all municipalities in the county on this plan and each municipality needs to approve it. Brandes moved, seconded by O'Halloran to adopt a Resolution for a Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR BERRIEN COUNTY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Walder said the Council has received a master plan for the Berrien County Trails which does not obligate the Village to anything. Doerr moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve the Resolution of Support for Berrien County Trails Master Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPOINT HARRY WALDER AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION WITH TERM ENDING AUGUST 31, 2023

Doerr moved, seconded by Brandes to appoint Harry Walder as Ex-Officio Member to the Planning Commission with a term Ending August 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPOINT MASTER PLAN TASK FORCE

Walder said he has people who are willing to serve on the Master Plan Task Force and he has been working with Diane Cody on getting everything together for the first meeting. He said the meetings are open to the public with the first meeting on January 24, 2023. He said the intent is for the Task Force to develop all data for the master plan, assemble the data and get an RFP from a consultant in August or September to put it together. Once completed, it will go to the Planning Commission for their approval and then to the Council for final approval. He said the Task Force will dissolve when the task is completed.

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Brandes to create a Master Plan Task Force, which is a sub committee of the Planning Commission, and to appoint Bob Barnes, Diane Cody, Jerald Dyson, John Hoover, Paul Leonard, David Manecke, Gina O'Halloran, Ed Trainor and Harry Walder. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBER TO TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Doerr said that he would like to appoint two new members to the Parks and Recreation Committee to fill open seats. O'Halloran moved, seconded by Doerr to appoint Jerry Dyson to the Parks and Recreation Committee with a term ending November 30, 2023 and Norm Cherrett with a term ending November 30, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPOINT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEMBER TO TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2024

Included in the above motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Village resident Bob Barnes talked to the Council about the Lake Avenue beach and access, an area on Perkins at Calla that floods and a vacant lot that is owned by the Village on Arnold Avenue.

Village resident Ed Sebastian said that in thinking about the sliding fee schedule for revetment work, the Council could consider the tonnage and number of truckloads of rock coming in to the Village and the impact on the road surface.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Bracewell moved, seconded by Doerr to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer