

**VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Deborah Lindley called the regular council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. EST. Present in addition to Lindley were James Bracewell and Blake O'Halloran. Paul Leonard arrived at the meeting at 7:05 p.m. EST.

ADOPT AGENDA

Lindley moved, seconded by Bracewell to adopt the August 18, 2021 agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0 with Bracewell, Lindley and O'Halloran voting aye. Leonard was not in attendance for the vote.

ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Village Council Minutes:
 - i. Regular Council Meeting (Zoom), July 21, 2021
- b. Hall Rental Request
 - i. George Connelly
 - ii. Robert Mueller
 - iii. Mary Kenny
- c. Pay Bills with Written Additions

Lindley moved, seconded by O'Halloran to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously 3-0 with Bracewell, Lindley and O'Halloran voting aye. Leonard was not in attendance for the vote.

Leonard arrived at the meeting at 7:05 p.m. EST.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Peggy Bolger, Chet Buziak, Betty McLean and John Rafkin addressed the council with concerns regarding trash can removal.

Felice Madda requested that the street lights that have been out in the Village for weeks be repaired. Police Chief Ryan Layman said that the police have reported them to the electric company.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION

None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

COMMISSION REPORTS

BUILDING & ZONING: Bracewell said there are many building projects included in the monthly building inspector report and asked for residents' patience with the trucks and contractors in the Village. He said there have been complaints about construction being done outside of the allowed hours, and said if you have a complaint of this type, contact the police department and they will decide if there is a violation.

Bracewell addressed a letter under correspondence from Richard Turk and Susan Kramer. He said that the Village's Building Inspector Bill Lambert has been a contractor for decades and is a state certified inspector, and he has reviewed the letter. Lambert said that the letter was based on a preliminary plan from Abonmarche even though they are not the

Regular Council Meeting – August 18, 2021

company that designed the house. Lambert said that he issued a building permit for the house only. He said they have change the back yard setback for the swimming pool from 20' to 30', and that there will be no solid concrete, but instead they will use permeable materials. He said once the plans are revised to show the larger setback and permeable materials, he will issue the permit for the swimming pool, but not until he has the corrected documents. Bracewell said that they have demonstrated that they have examined the site.

PARKS & BEACHES: Bracewell said that the walkway is complete at the pump house (Walnut) beach and the beach at Whitewood is as serviceable as the Village can make it. Lindley said the Lake Park access has been completed with the Village installing the ramp which will be painted next year.

STREETS & WATER: Leonard said normal water testing has been done with no issues. He said streets are taking a beating with all of the construction going on in the Village, and he sees no reason to spend money to repair the streets until the construction has slowed down.

POLICE: Lindley was going to report that our new officer Creo Brewster is fitting in nicely and then she saw a letter from Liz Kelly included in correspondence in appreciation to both Creo and employee Tim Pendergast. Lindley thanked Creo and Tim for their conscientious service to the Village.

PRO SHOP & COURSE: O'Halloran said that last year was the best year on record for the golf course and this July we are \$11,000 above last July. He explained that the Village pays ServiScape's direct costs for maintaining the golf course and ServiScape has been getting pressure from their suppliers regarding increased pricing, and if their supply prices go up, the cost to the Village will also increase. He said the irrigation system is very old and ServiScape spends a lot of time repairing the system, and the Village needs to replace the irrigation system which will be very costly.

SERVISCAPE REPORT

Clay Putnam said routine maintenance has been ongoing. He said lightning disrupted the communication from the pump house to the holding tank and Peerless Midwest repaired the damage. He said the fairway mower is down, but fortunately they were able to get a loaner from another ServiScape maintained golf course and will use it until the Village's mower is repaired.

PERSONNEL REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT: In addition to his written report, Superintendent Bob Dabbs said that in July they were moving 75 trash cans back to the house per week, but are now down to 40-60 per week. He hopes that number will drop down after Labor Day.

POLICE CHIEF: In addition to his written report, Police Chief Ryan Layman reported that there were 70 complaints in June. He said that the shed on the golf course was broken into and the doors were torn off. He said there is an issue with youth vandalism every year, and asked if anyone has any information on the shed to contact the police department.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Building Inspector Bill Lambert had nothing to add to his written report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER TO TERM ENDING NOVEMBER 2022

Lindley stated that she would like to appoint Pete Doerr who lives in Golfmore Estates to the vacant seat on the Council, adding that she doesn't think we've had a Council member from that area of the Village in the past. She said that Doerr plans to run for election in November 2022.

Regular Council Meeting – August 18, 2021

Lindley moved, seconded by O'Halloran to appoint Pete Doerr as a Council member with a term ending in November 2022. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

TRASH CAN REMOVAL

Council members continued their discussion on the trash can removal program that they have been considering for the last several months and said the following:

- It is not their intent to cause a hardship for elderly residents, or those with steep driveways and they felt that since this is a small Village, waivers or adjustments in certain circumstances can be made.
- The fees are not intended for the Village to make money.
- The intent of the can removal is to get the cans off the streets.
- This is not discriminatory against those that don't live here full time because all residents are being asked to do the same thing and move their cans off the street.
- It was stated that wherever someone lives (full-time or part-time), they are required to move their trash cans off the street and not leave them out for days or even months.
- It's possible that residents in certain areas could build a fenced area (cage) near the edge of the street to hold their cans.
- The cans on the streets in the Eiffel Towers are sometimes blown out into the street, and cans left on the edge of the street make the streets more narrow and dangerous.
- For those residents that have more trash than will fit in their can, it is your responsibility to contact Able Disposal to get another can from them so that your trash is not left outside of the can. The cost for the additional service will be billed to you by Able Disposal.

The Council will continue to keep statistics on the number of cans being moved by the Village each week, and will work towards a solution for the cans on the street. They asked that everyone continue to move their cans if they are able. It was suggested that cans be set out no earlier than 12:00 p.m. EST the day before pick-up and removed by 8:00 pm EST the day of pick-up.

GENERATOR FOR VILLAGE HALL

Lindley tabled this item until all bids are received for a generator.

NEW BUSINESS

42 ACRES GRANT EXTENSION APPROVAL

Lindley said that McKenna is working on all of the final requirements including the design for a sign, and everything seems to be going well.

AUTHORIZE DEBORAH LINDLEY TO SIGN CLOSING DOCUMENTS AND COMPLETE TRANSACTION FOR PURCHASE OF 42 ACRES

Leonard moved, seconded by Bracewell to authorize Council President Deborah Lindley to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the purchase of the 42 Acres. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

PICKLEBALL COURT BIDS

Lindley moved, seconded by O'Halloran to approve an expenditure of up to \$25,000 for one pickleball court and fencing and for the Parks & Recreation Committee to come back to the Council with a recommendation for the location of the pickleball court. Motion carried 3-1 with Leonard, Lindley and O'Halloran voting aye and Bracewell voting nay.

RENTAL GOLF CARTS – LEASE

O'Halloran said that the Village currently owns 13 golf carts that are used as rentals. The average age of the carts is approximately 11 years old, and they all use the old battery system. He said each cart makes approximately \$2,400 per

Regular Council Meeting – August 18, 2021

summer or about \$30,000 a year. If the Village leases carts, we will have all new carts and they will be uniform and will have a lithium battery system which allows them to charge faster and go 36 holes. He said that maintenance is included in the lease and there is a 5-year battery warranty.

He said the lease of 20 carts is approximately \$20,500 and should bring in approximately \$48,000 per year. He said in the past, we have done \$30,000 in rentals in a year, so the revenue won't change much after the lease payment, but we'll have all new carts.

The Village received proposals from EZ-GO at a cost of \$20,419.20 per year and Club Car at a cost of \$20,430 per year.

O'Halloran moved, seconded by Leonard to lease 20 carts from EZ-Go for 66 months at a cost of \$20,419.20 annually with payments required between May and October. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

NEW BUFFALO SHORELINE ALLIANCE MEETING

Bracewell said that the New Buffalo Shoreline Alliance (NBSA) is trying to sue the Army Corps of Engineers based on a lawsuit that was filed in Stevensville. He said there will be an opportunity for lakefront owners especially to attend a meeting held by the NBSA in the Village Council Meeting room on September 2 at 7:00 P.M. EST.

Brian Byrnes, Grand Beach representative to the NBSA said that there are 66 lakefront properties in Grand Beach, but only 16 of those owners have signed up to be included in the lawsuit. He said the NBSA can add dollar amounts that people have spent to protect their shoreline property into the lawsuit and NBSA will be reimbursed for those costs. He said that they need more of the lakefront owners to join the lawsuit.

Lindley said that Grand Beach needs another representative on the NBSA board. Anyone that is interested in representing Grand Beach along with Byrnes should contact Clerk Mary Robertson.

AT&T ANNUAL VIDEO REPORT

Lindley said this is a report that we receive each year from AT&T and they have met their quota in regards to providing services to low income households.

REAPPOINT JAMES BRACEWELL AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION WITH TERM ENDING AUGUST 31, 2022

Lindley moved, seconded by Leonard to reappoint James Bracewell as ex-officio member to the Planning Commission with a term ending August 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

REAPPOINT HARRY WALDER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION WITH TERM ENDING AUGUST 31, 2024

Lindley said that the Council appreciates Harry Walder's continued help on the Planning Commission and moved, seconded by O'Halloran to reappoint Harry Walder to the Planning Commission with a term ending August 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - GENERAL

John Rafkin said that he was not clear at all on what the Council has decided to do on the trash cans. Lindley said that the Council will continue to gather information.

Bracewell said that on August 9 a tree blew down on the lot next to his house. He was concerned that someone would hit the tree with a car or a golf cart so he sent a message to the police department and they responded to his message and within 45 minutes Village employee Tim Pendergast and others responded. He said that the Village has great employees and they really did their job well.

CORRESPONDENCE

JOHN DALEY – POISONOUS HEMLOCK

Lindley thanked John Daley for the information regarding the poisonous Hemlock plant. Leonard said that it grows everywhere and it is a big problem in Indiana. He said it is hard to distinguish this plant from the Queen Anne’s Lace plant. He said it is very dangerous and will kill a pet if it eats it, and if you breathe it in and ingest it into your lungs you will have serious issues. He said if you find the plant with the purple spots on the stalk, you should put on gloves and pull it out of the ground and let it die in the sun and then dispose of it.

JOHN DEANER – TRASH CAN REMOVAL

Trash cans were discussed earlier in the meeting.

JOE FARWELL – ELY WATER LINES

Lindley said that some of the things contained in the letter had been discussed previously and she is glad that they came to the realization that the old lines won’t need to be removed. Bracewell said he commends Harry Walder for being involved at the meeting with the property owner regarding the water lines and saving the Village money.

LIZ KELLY – THANK YOU FOR HELP WITH FALLEN TREE

Lindley addressed this letter during her police report.

RICHARD TURK & SUSAN KRAMER – ZONING VIOLATION COMPLAINT

Bracewell addressed this during his building and zoning commissioner report.

ADJOURNMENT

Lindley moved, seconded by Bracewell to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary J. Robertson
Clerk-Treasurer