

Village of Wolverine
5714 West Main Street
Wolverine Village Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2022

Call to Order: President Ralph Ochs called meeting to order at 7 pm.

Members Present: Council members: Anne Ford, Tal Babcock, Rhonda Ford, Rick Johnston, Ralph Ochs, Treasurer Laurie Holden, and Clerk Susan Beitel.

Absent: Council members Dennis Holden and Tansy Sloan

Guests: Sue Warner, Judge Aaron Gauthier, Sue Vandenhoeck, Jessica Slater, William Dubois, Natasha Collins, Scott Mann, Sam Hendrickson.

Adopt/Amend Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda made by Rick Johnston, supported by Tal Babcock, verbal vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Clerk Minutes: Motion to adopt minutes made by Rhonda Ford, supported by Rhonda Ford, verbal vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Treasurers Report: Motion to adopt the report was made by Rick Johnston, supported by Tal Babcock, verbal vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Financial Report: Motion to adopt the Clerks financial report was made by Tal Babcock, supported by Anne Ford, verbal vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Payment of Bills: Motion to pay the bills was made by Ann Ford, supported by Rhonda Ford; roll call vote unanimous to pay the bills as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fire Board: None **Community Center:** Available for rent w/full kitchen

Rink: None **Parks & Recs:** See presidents report below.

Zoning: None **Ordinance:** None

Planning Committee: Next Meeting Oct. 24th w/Master Plan updates.

Development & Advisory Board: None

President's Report:

- President reports that all necessary reports have been submitted on time and the village is up to date with all necessary filings and reports.
- Updates on the park security system are progressing and in place.

- The Old 27 Motor Tour was a great success this year and the Garden Club was able to sell 70 pies this year, selling out in just a short time. These funds help to keep the park and improve other areas in the village. We encourage residents to come out and participate in this annual event, put this on your calendar for next year. It's a great afternoon out!
- Village residents will soon see a well being drilled in the small park. This is part of the ongoing project to improve the park for the residents to enjoy as our goal to make this park recreational year round with upgraded playground equipment, improved ice rink and ball court, as well as other plans continues to move forward as the budget allows.
- Improvements continue to be made to the campground at Lumberman's Park that incorporate safety concerns as well as convenience and amenities.

Old Business:

- Representatives from the Library presented the board with a purchase agreement, detailing the terms discussed at the prior meeting along with a check for one thousand dollars to be held in escrow while the sale is pending. The issue of reworking the heat ducts and the electrical system if necessary was discussed and the board and library agreed an addendum would be added to address the issues.
- The village is still working on the scheduling and costs associated with the repaving of Depot Street. It is our hope to still get this completed before the end of the year.
- Jim Dubois addressed the board with an update regarding the Lumberjack festival, specifically which their non-profit had expired and until they could re-establish that they were unsure if they would be able to be organized in time by next year to hold a festival but offered to keep council updated on any new developments. Also suggesting if anyone had any resources that could help in this matter his board would be open their input.
- Update on the Marijuana ordinance; council would like to pursue the subject further; our village attorney advises Village must put a zoning ordinance in place first before council can move forward with its marijuana ordinance. The village attorney is researching this and will be advising the village planning commission to be certain the village ordinances have the correct verbiage, etc. moving forward.

New Business:

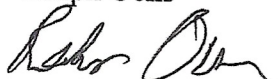
- The Honorable Judge Aaron Gauthier attended the meeting to address council with his annual update regarding the circuit court in Cheboygan County. Judge Gauthier has been very proactive in reaching out to communities to educate them regarding access to circuit

court cases and the court in general. He explained while the court rooms are opening to the public for in person cases again they are still airing the criminal and civil court docket live on their YouTube channel. He pointed out that they also have a feature to be able to ask the Judge w/comments. He would welcome feedback on a workgroup they have currently on whether they should continue online and what should or should not be online. Judge Gauthier pointed out that while criminal filings are up in 2021, they are continuing to work with many of those case files (drugs) to get them in programs for rehab, rather than the revolving door. He has reported much success with the program. Judge Gauthier has recently been appointed to the MI Judicial Council where he can continue to have a finger on the pulse of what is happening in MI and with that knowledge better serve and represent northern MI. Thank you Judge Gauthier for your dedication and hard work.

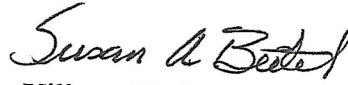
- Sam Hendrickson attended the meeting and addressed council as the condition of the sidewalks within the village. Pointing out that some of the cracks needed weeds cleaned etc. which he has taken upon himself to volunteer to start doing. Thank you, Sam, for your efforts to help keep our town looking good and maintained.
- Anne Ford brought to councils' attention that campers have commented about the river bank at the campground and the need to have the banks better groomed. It was suggested that a group of volunteers could be organized to take sections of the bank for the summer or a set period and maintain the bank from garbage and weeds, etc.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn: the meeting was made by Anne Ford, supported by Rick Johnston; meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Ralph Ochs


Village President

Susan Beitel


Village Clerk