

October 8, 2020 EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Aylsworth who led the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting was conducted virtually due to health concerns surrounding COVID-19 under the Governor of Michigan's Order 2020-129. Also, in attendance were Trustees Davis, Bacon, Rademacher, Chase, Skrocki, Treasurer Ronkaitis, Clerk Smith and Zoning Administrator Grobbel.

MOTION OF REQUIRED COUNCIL ACTIONS

TODD AVIS RESIGNATION - Motion by Chase, supported by Rademacher to accept the resignation of Todd Avis as Trustee. Appreciation for his work as Trustee and on the Short-Term Rental Committee was expressed. **Ayes: Chase, Davis, Bacon, Rademacher. Nays: Skrocki, Aylsworth. MOTION PASSED.**

PROPOSAL FOR FALLING RIPRAP AT BEACH PARK -No price has been obtained to date . There was discussion of a not to exceed price to facilitate quick remediation, but there was concern that no quotes have been received. A prior year quote for similar work was reviewed. **Motion by Bacon, supported by Rademacher to approve an amount not to exceed \$10K to haul the rock from Shalda Park to the Beach Park and installed in the area identified by Superintendent Friend. Roll Call: Ayes: Unanimous. MOTION PASSED.**

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA - Bacon asked to remove the Procedure for South Bar Lake Outlet Maintenance and would like it placed on the Regular meeting agenda. She also asked that an update on the Drainage District be added under Old Business #2.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion by Rademacher, supported by Bacon to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION PASSED upon a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - John Collins commented on the Council's effort to discuss a procedure for maintaining South Bar Lake Outlet.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS - Included in packet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Bacon reviewed the recent Planning Commission meeting . Aylsworth suggested that the wording for ordinance updates could be sent to Attorney Figura for review.

OLD BUSINESS

SHORT TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE - Davis felt the information from the Committee was excellent. He has heard only a couple of complaints and wonders what sort of ordinance would be considered. Aylsworth felt there were some suggestions from the Committee regarding existing rentals and setting a cap that may be a good idea. He would like to encourage families to come into the Village but was concerned about septic loads for homes renting to large numbers of people. Rademacher agreed that should be reviewed. Chase reviewed several local ordinances that register rentals and control a maximum number of occupants. Since there seem few issues in the Village currently, a simple and generic registration may be all that is needed . There was discussion of

problems in other communities that are not happening in the Village currently and whether there is a need to pass regulations before problems arise. Bacon reviewed the language in the Master Plan regarding Seasonal Residences. She agreed that a simple process that includes registration of all rentals and includes the update and enforcement of Point of Sale Septic Evaluation Ordinance, and the Noise Ordinance. Davis expressed concern about the registration of summer homes used only by family members. There was discussion of how the ordinances might be enforced. Skrocki reviewed possible criteria required for simple registration and the need to rely on the good nature of people. There was consensus that each Council member describe their concerns in writing so they could be used to compile an ordinance for consideration.

UPDATE ON DRAINAGE DISTRICT - Aylsworth reviewed his recent contact with Drain Commissioner Christensen. He stated the Oct. 22nd meeting will be a discussion of the *need* for the district and that is it. A copy of the notice for this meeting has been published in the newspaper, has been delivered to the Village Office and every resident in the district.

NEW BUSINESS -

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - Bacon reviewed the motion from the Planning Commission. She provided a draft of the process that follows the Planning and Enabling Act. It also included some criteria from a Planning Handbook. Aylsworth stated he had always followed the General Law Village Act. Rademacher felt it would be helpful to have more information available to prospective candidates. Aylsworth and Skrocki would like the Planning Commission to come up with the guidelines for the Council to approve. Bacon will pare down the wording for Council consideration.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE - None.

BOARD COMMENTS - Rademacher felt a record may have been set for the shortest work session.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:06 p.m.

Derith Smith, Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the October 27, 2020 Regular Council meeting.