

# Regular Meeting

## Village of South Range

**September 7, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the Village of South Range was called to order at **6:00 p.m.** by President George Eakin.

**Present:** George Eakin, Therese Parolini, Cody Bonini, & Tim Korby

Kristen Archambeau, Craig Burkman S.C.,

**Absent:** Greg Harkonen & Paul Saaranen

**Guests:** Barbara Lewis, Steve Sabatini, Faithe Sarazin, Kody Maki (Public Works), Michelle Harma, Craig Hamlin, & Brian Maki

### **Recognition of Guests:**

- **Brian Maki:** Would like the caution light to be reinstalled by MDOT-President Eakin will contact MDOT, asked about the Junk Ordinance-President Eakin plans on having Public Works do photos, & discussed Rental on Baltic Avenue.
- **Barbara Lewis:** (Former Council Member and Former South Range Resident): Discussed the zoning ordinances for the Village and stated they should be on file at the Houghton County Courthouse. Offered to assist looking for Ordinances.
- **Michelle Harma:** Stated that all the Stop signs were a waste of money & resources, and discussed the rental on Baltic Avenue.
- **Steve Sabatini:** Suggested a Code Enforcement Officer, and stated that MTU has disciplinary rules for students-President Eakin stated he will contact MTU.
- **Faithe Sarazin:** Requested a “South Whealkate Drive” sign, the current sign says “South Whealkate Street”, and would like a “Drop-off” sign by elementary-President Eakin will discuss with Superintendent Keteri as that is South Range Elementary Property.

### **Approval of the August 3rd, 2023 Minutes**

\*Tabled to the October 5, 2023 Meeting.

### **Agenda Approval**

Trustee Cody Bonini made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted with the change to add Superior National Bank CD.

Trustee Therese Parolini supported the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

### **Street Commissioner Report (Presented by Craig Burkman)**

- Responded to 21 Miss Digs since last meeting, not including marking all the manholes for the DNR along the Railroad Tracks from South Range to Atlantic Mine.
- Dave Swetich signed up for the Wastewater Test in November.
- Brandon Skewes & Kody Maki signed up for the Water Test in November.
- Water Conference at the end of the month.
- Fixed water main shut offs hit by grader.
- Have been transferring water at the lagoons to get ready for discharge
- Vac truck is back up and running.
- Removed the Eagles old dumpster, they now have cans.
- We need maintenance on the water tank antennas and software.
- Presented quotes for tree cutting & removal in alleys.
- Met with EGLE: Due for a tank inspection that is up every 5 years.

### **Village President Report:**

Village President George Eakin updated the Council with the following:

- Talked with Sheriff Saaranen concerning a bid for a full time deputy. He is hopeful that Adams Township will split the cost with us (\$105,000) per year. He will attend their next meeting.
- Called the Sheriff's Department twice concerning the students from Baltic Ave. Rental racing 4 wheelers & some motorcycles on M-26 (Driving very aggressively). Looks like the Village will be having vehicles towed this winter as well. As the snow piles up they will be parked over the sidewalk again. He contacted the landlord today about these issues, and a letter will be sent out soon as well.
- The window installation in the community hall will be completed by the end of next week.
- Met with Dave S. & Craig B. from Public Works recently at the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> street alley to discuss more tree removal.
- Will have the guys start taking pictures for ordinance enforcement soon, he may go with one of them if he has time.
- Talked with Craig about postponing the siding work on the Village garage.
- OHM started some preliminary work with the alley way drainage work.
- Had Council look over the lot sale agreement for Mr. Franchi from Keweenaw Title.
- Discussed quote from Scooter Dr. for a lift on outside stairs for handicap accessibility.

### **Clerk's Report**

- Auditor Barry Gaudette came back to finish the audit and submit reports. Audit is complete for the 2022-23 Fiscal year. (all Council received copies arrived today 9/7/23)
- Our new website has a few more things that need to be completed to launch it. Clerk asked that the Council take a look at the new website that was emailed to

them a while back. They are looking for content to be added to the “Our Village” section. This would also need to include a section about the history of South Range and information about the Village. Clerk Archambeau would like to submit Council requests for those sections, which would include the written section.

- Grace Lutheran would like to be added to the plowing list for the Village Public Works. I did give them the current rates, but did say I would be asking the Council if they were raising rates this season and update them.

*\*Current Rates: \$125/hour Loader, \$75/hour Dump Truck, & \$80/hour Pick-up*

*\*\*Current Parking lots plowed with snow fall: Apostolic Lutheran & 1902*

*\*\*\*Parking lots cleared as requested by Business owners or Plow Drivers: Campioni Convenience, Holy Family, Dollar General, & Rangetowne Apartments*

- There is a CD up for renewal at Superior National Bank, would like Council to approve to roll it back into an 11 month CD as it is up for renewal on 9/17/2023.
- Winter is just around the bend, which brings colder months, and when people start to ask about let-runs. Adams Township Water has a let run guide set up. They allow up to 1,500 gallons of water over the average for people who need to run in the winter. Anything over that is billed accordingly. Since the Village is surrounded by the Township and receives water from them, it would be great to be on the same page as them implementing the same plan.

### **Action Items: OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Drainage**

Trustee Therese Parolini made a motion to approve North Mine Tree Service bid for tree removal from the alley of 5th & 6th Street in the amount of \$1,300.00.

Trustee Cody Bonini supported the motion

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

#### **Trustee Letters of Interest**

Trustee Cody Bonini made a motion to accept the Letter of Interest from Justin Marier for the Council Trustee Vacancy.

Trustee Therese Parolini supported the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

#### **Parcel Bids**

Trustee Therese Parolini made a motion to **accept** the Bid from **Craig Hamlin** in the amount of **\$3,250.00**

for:

**Lot 20 Block 7 (Baltic Avenue)**

**Parcel #31-045-107-020-00 with a minimum bid of: \$7,500.00**

Trustee Cody Bonini supported the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

**Public Works Trailer**\*Tabled

**Action Items: NEW BUSINESS**

**Flagpole**

\*Public Works Kody Maki will look into the flagpole situation.

**Lot Sale Agreement**

\*Council stated to move forward with the Lot sale to Mr. Franchi, removing the must build on in 2 years. This is due to location and unknowns on utilities.

**Handbook**-\*Tabled until the October 5, 2023 Regular Meeting.

**Fountain**

Trustee Therese Parolini made a motion to hire Payden Rothenberger to repair the Fountain in front of the Fire Hall in the amount of \$325.00.

Trustee Tim Korby supported the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

**Additions to the Agenda**

**Superior National Bank CD**

Trustee Cody Bonini made a motion to approve rolling the SNB CD into the 11 month CD rate at 5.05%.

Trustee Tim Korby supported the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

**Payment of the Bills**

Trustee Cody Bonini made a motion to pay the bills totalling **\$104,047.55**. With **\$71,476.26 in old bills, and \$32,571.29 in new bills.**

Trustee Tim Korby seconded the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*

## **Poll of Trustees**

### **Therese Parolini:**

- Would like the trail to the Village water tank repaired
- Wants a grant writer
- Discussed all employees going to the water conference, wondered who would be covering. (Employees will be available by phone to come back from Harris).
- Discussed Free Hall Rentals to Fireman. Requested the Policy for the next meeting from President Eakin.
- Discussed a resident's complaint with 3 people doing meter reads, as said resident used to do them over (3) days by themselves.
- Stated there should not be more than (1) Public Works Employee off at a time and pay a part time employee at the same time.

### **George Eakin:**

- Welcomed back Justin Marier to the Council.

## **Adjournment**

Trustee Cody Bonini moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:24p.m.

Trustee Tim Korby seconded the motion.

*Yeas: George Eakin, Cody Bonini, Therese Parolini, & Tim Korby*

*Nays: None*