

Village of Michiana Council Meeting
December 8, 2023 at 1:00p.m. EST

The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom.

Roll Call

Council members: Tim McCarthy, Brian Cassidy, Nancy Thill, Mike Mumper and Mike Botelho. Also, present were Police Chief Ryan Layman, Water & Street Superintendent, Rick Reitz, Treasurer Tracey McCay, Village Attorney Sara Senica and Village Clerk Anne Heywood. Building Inspector Bill Lambert was excused. Present were 6 residents and 7 participated via Zoom.

Additions/Deletions

Additions Under New Business Ordinance 2023-04 Flood Plan Maps

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - N/A

Minutes

Mike Botelho made a motion to approve the Council Minutes from November 9, 2023, Brian Cassidy seconded the motion; discussion; Nancy Thill made a correction under tree report that the Village Attorney worked with Nancy; Mike Botelho made a motion to amend the minutes Brian Cassidy seconded; motion was approved by all.

REPORTS

Building Inspector Report - Bill Lambert – absent – report on file

Fire Chief Report – Chief Bendix - absent – report on file

Police Report - Police Chief Ryan Layman reported 35 calls. The Chief said his Tahoe was in the shop and should be completed sometime in January. Ryan introduced Heather Crook who will be attending the police academy in January and will replace Officer George Knoll who will be retiring in July. Heather has been working part-time and participating in duty rounds with our officers.

Beach Report - Brian Cassidy reported the sample Beach Stop 38 number came in and will be placed on the shelter so they can be seen from the lake in case of emergency. It was requested by Nancy to be placed on the beach so not to ruin the aesthetics of the shelter. Brian said the backs of the sign could be painted white so from the street side it would blend in with the shelters. The Village will be ordering number signs for all Stops for this summer.

Public Works Report - Rick Reitz reported that they picked up 91 loads of leaves this year. We would like to thank the residents for getting their leaves raked by the deadline.

Water Report – Tim McCarthy stated the Village is still waiting on the Clean Drinking Water grant that went to Congressman Walberg's Office. Tim said that Brian was stepping down from water board and Mike Mumper would step into his place. Rick would like to have Merritt work on the following projects; Putting together the Blue Prints on the water lines located over on the east side of White Ditch Creek as well as on Lake Shore Drive.

Merritt would also apply for the 2 State permits needed to do the job. The total cost would be \$51,200. The other project is the he water Liability Study which has to be done every 5 years and needs to be completed by 2025. The cost of the Liability Study is \$11,000. Tim made a motion to approve \$51,200 for the water line blue prints and \$11,000 for 2025 Liability Water Study; Mike Botelho seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken; 5 ayes 0 nays; motion passed. These projects will be paid for with the water bond money that is left in the Village account with the County.

Tree Report - Nancy Thill talked about AEP will be sending an informational letter to the residents regarding utility line trimming that will be taking place early part of Spring 2024. Nancy said the first ever Tree Inventory Report done by Great Lakes Urban Forestry and by Nancy along with her board is finally finished. Nancy made a motion to have it posted on the website; Mike Botelho seconded the motion; motion was approved by all.

Treasurer Report – Tracey McCay gave the treasurer report and stated we currently have \$38,919 in the Pokagon Fund. Tracey told the Council that one of the Water CD’s maturity dates will be coming up on March 5th before the next Council meeting. Tracey suggested the Council consider allowing the CD to rollover since the interest rates were still high. Tim made a motion to roll the CD back another 6 months if the interest rate was 4.5 percent or higher; a roll call vote was taken; 5 ayes and 0 nays; motion passed.

Clerk Report - Anne Heywood asked the council for approval for the Check Register in the amount of \$63,040.80; Tim made motion to approve the check register; Mike Mumper seconded; motion was approved by all. The 2 benches ordered for the pickleball courts have arrived. Anne thanked Mike Mumper who offered to pick up the benches to save on shipping, if they were in Naperville. Unfortunately, they ended up in a warehouse in Southern Illinois. The final cost was \$1,367.78 paid with the money from the pickleball tournament. Anne reported the Village audit was wrapping up and everything will be filed with the State by the auditors by the end of the year 12/31/2023. Anne reminded everyone to watch for the next Village newsletter. Remember if you’re not on the Village’s email list you should contact the office or michianaclerk@michianavillage.org to be added.

Old Business

- 1. Update on Village Hall Renovation** – Tim said all the windows and kitchen door have been installed. The contractor was still waiting on 3 hall doors. Tim thanked said Holly Duran and Chris Boothe and Justin Lucas for their donation to have the fireplace turned into a gas fireplace with a new ceramic insert.

New Business

- 1. Adding Additional 6 Months Moratorium on Sport/Pickleball Courts.** Tim made a motion to add another 6 months moratorium on Sport/Pickleball Courts in the Village so it could be given to the Planning Commission to discuss. The first moratorium will end January, 2024. By adding 6 additional months the Planning Commission will have until July, 2024 to make recommendations to the Council. Nancy Thill seconded the motion; motion was approved by all.
- 2. FEMA Ordinance 2023-03**– Tim McCarthy explained EGLE has made changes to bring our 2006 FEMA Ordinance up to code. Sara Sencia the Village Attorney

reviewed and updated the Ordinance. Tim made a motion to approve the new updated FEMA Flood Hazard Ordinance 2023-03; Nancy Thill seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken; 5 ayes and 0 nays; motion passed.

- 3. Flood Plan Maps Ordinance 2023-04** - Tim McCarthy read Section 3 of the Flood Plan which was also updated by EGLE. Tim made a motion to approve the new amended Flood Plan Maps; Mike Botelho seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken; 5 ayes and 0 nays; motion passed.
- 4. Amended Tree Ordinance 2023-05** - Nancy Thill made a motion to approve the Tree Ordinance 2023-05; Mike Mumper seconded the motion; a Roll call vote was taken; 5 ayes and 0 nays; motion passed. Tim thanked Nancy for all the work she put into getting this done.
- 5.** Tim announced there will be No January or February meetings in 2024 unless something should come up that could not wait until March.

Correspondence – N/A

Public Comment – Kathleen Hogan Morisson made comments regarding private property and penalties. Maureen Shekleton, Renee Okonek and Nancy Thill made comments of the placement of the beach stop numbers.

Tim made a motion to adjourn at 2:27 p.m., Nancy seconded the motion.

Respectful submitted,

Anne Heywood/Clerk