

Village of Michiana Council Meeting

July 14, 2023 at 2:00p.m. EST

The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom.

ATTENDEES

Council members: Tim McCarthy, Brian Cassidy, Mike Botelho and Nancy Thill. Also, present were Police Chief Ryan Layman, Water & Street Superintendent Rick Reitz, Village Treasurer Tracey McCay, and Village Clerk Anne Heywood, 32 residents present, and 7 participated via Zoom.

Additions/Deletions – New Business - Pickleball/Sports Court

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only – N/A

Council President Tim McCarthy opened the meeting with the following items;

1. Welcomed our new Village Treasurer - Tracey McCay.
2. Announced the resignation of Michael Tolentino. Tim thanked Michael for his service on the Council. A motion was made by TJ to accept Michael's resignation. Brian seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. AED/ CPR class was offered at the Village on Saturday, June 24th and was followed by Coffee with a Cop. Tim McCarthy said both events were well attended.
4. The first summer concert in the park had over 150 residents and their guests. Food was provided for purchase by Wood Stock & Grill from New Buffalo and sold out. Tim McCarthy thanked the event committee of Lisa Zirpolo, Cori Burland, Diane O'Brien and Sara McDonald for organizing this successful event.
5. The flower boxes around the Village Hall have been cleaned up with new boxwoods and the old plants have been moved and planted around the park.

Corresponded moved up on the agenda – Email from Joann Fisher saying that her grandchildren were told they could not play in the park by Day Camp counselors. The camp director, Regan, explained the situation that took place in the park that morning and the councilor that interacted with Mrs. Fisher's grandchildren. Tim McCarthy explained that this is public park and people can use the park while camp is in session. However, children who are not registered with the Michiana Day Camp cannot participate with the campers and their scheduled events for liability related issues. The Day Camp welcomes all children to have their parents sign them up for camp.

CONSENT

Tim McCarthy made a motion to approve the Council Minutes of June 9, 2023, Tree Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2023 and the Clerk Register/Treasurer Report; Brian Cassidy seconded the motion; All approved.

REPORTS

Building Inspectors Report - Bill Lambert and Chad Butler talked about the new alternate beach stairs access to the Stop 40 Beach. They were finished in time for the July 4th holiday as promised. It was great to see so many residents return to Stop 40!

Police Report - Police Chief Ryan Layman reported that the new Flock camera, which is a car/license plate reader system, has been installed and used already for an incident that happened in the Village. Ryan asked the residents if ordering Amazon to please collect their packages immediately. Please don't let them sit outside too long, because they have been having issues with packages being taken.

Beach Report - Brian Cassidy said the beaches looked great and the new stairs were being used to get down to Stop 40. Brian reminded everyone to respect the lake and make sure you never swim alone.

Street Report -Rick & Josh worked for 3 days removing all the old garbage cans that were not picked up from the old garbage company. The old cans have been placed by the Village and will be picked up by our new company Republic at no cost. Our new seasonal helper Cole has been working out great keeping the beaches and park clean. Rick received 2 bids for paving. Mike Botelho made a motion to approve the lower bid from Reith Riley for \$98,825; Brian Cassidy seconded the motion; All Approved - motion passed.

Water Report - Rick has been finishing up EGLE reports and water testing.

Tree Report - Nancy Thill thanked Tina Weaver, President of the Michiana Women's Club, for allowing Anne Blasko to do a project with the kids focused on taking care of trees properly by removing vines. Nancy said the tree committee met on June 28th and were reviewing the 95-page report from Great Lakes Urban Forestry. Nancy provided the Village with an amended list of trees to replace the current list that appears in our ordinances. Nancy made a motion to accept the amended tree list. TJ seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Report - Anne Heywood reminded everyone to RSVP for the Village Party on August 12th. Anne said there were residents interested in having a Village garage/rummage sale. Anne already has 12 families signed up. Please call the office if you would like to be added to the list. The office will pay to run the Garage Sale AD's in the paper.

Old Business:

Village Hall Renovation

Holly Duran said they started getting the word out on the proposed renovations to the Village Hall by handing out flyers at the Concert in the Park and the 4th of July parade. The Committee has written another letter that they would like posted on the website with their own link where residents can keep up with what's happening on the project. Holly said the project has already begun, the contractor is working on getting bids for the doors and windows. Council loved the letter provided by the committee, so Anne will have a special page created on the Village website to keep our residents up to date on the project.

New Business:

Pickleball Tournament

Lisa Zirpolo talked for the pickleball group stating that they would like to hold another Michiana PicklePalooza 2023. They would like to hold the event the weekend of September 8,9, & 10th. The only thing different this year is the use of the park on Friday

night for music and pizza and BYOB get together. They will supply the insurance. They would like to block the courts starting Friday so that the courts can be cleaned and will be offering play with the Pro (Preston), Saturday morning Men/Women games, and Sunday for Mixed Doubles. They asked if they can start placing signs up at the park and on the Village web-site. All money raised, after costs, would go back to the Village to be placed in the tennis/pickleball fund which was established to help maintain the courts. Council approved the tournament.

Investing

Mike Botelho would like to work with the Treasurer and another Council Member to talk about different ways of investing money in safe investments like CD's and other ideas. Mike Botelho and Brian Cassidy volunteered to work with the Treasurer. They will email the council some financial Plan documents they each have worked with, along with the policy provided to the Council by Lori Nelson earlier this year.

Pickleball & Sports Courts

Tim McCarthy made a motion to have a 6- month moratorium placed on new permits for Sports/Pickleball Courts on private property. This will allow the Village Council time to study the impact these types of improvements may have on property values as well as neighborhood atmosphere. The Council plans to review several ordinances relating to noise and lighting. Brian Cassidy seconded the motion; All approved - motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Holly Duran had concerns about the Flock camera being placed in the Village, Sara Senica the Village Attorney explained that these cameras are not being used to monitor people. They can only be used when a criminal act has taken place.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Heywood

Clerk