**VILLAGE OF MICHIANA**

**MICHIANA COUNCIL MEETING**

**Friday, March 13, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mike Mintz, Pro Tem, Phil Bonello and Kathleen Hogan Morrison were present. Mike Mintz made a motion to excuse Tim Iverson and Linda Stein, Phil Bonello seconded the motion; motion passed. Also present were Building Inspector Bill Lambert, Police Chief Ryan Layman, Water Street Superintendent Rick Reitz, Department of Public Works Josh Gondeck and 16 Village residents.

**Addition to Agenda –** No Additions to Agenda

**Approval of Minutes –** December 23, 2019 and the Special Meeting February 23, 2020 could not be approved as an inadequate number of council members who had attended those meetings were not present. Minutes will be approved at the April meeting.

**REPORTS**

**1. Building Inspector Report –** Bill Lambert reported very little to report because there was no new construction in the Village.

**2. Treasurer’s Report –** Cheryl Cook (Absent) Anne Heywood read the treasury report with a balance for February $2,125,323.44 and $48,721 in the Pokagon fund.

**3. Tree Inspector Report –** Kris Wulff (Absent)

**4. Fire Chief Report –** Chief Gary Bendix read his reports stating that 2019 had the greatest number of calls ever, most of which were First Responder calls. Chief Bendix also mentioned May 3rd is the annual Fire Department Pancake Breakfast. Chief Bendix will keep everyone posted if they need to cancel due to COVID-19 Virus.

**5. Police Commission –** Russell Bruesch wanted to commend the Officers on a great job on their response to calls.

**6. Police Report –** Chief Laymanreminded everyone to lock their houses and car doors. All the Officers have completed CPR training. Chief Layman stated his department was up for a new squad car. He wanted it approved so he could get the car ordered. He said it could take as long as four or five months to make these cars. He stated the car would be $43,048 plus he had traded in one of the older cars and received $6,000 which would be applied to the new car. Chief Layman also mentioned that the Village of Michiana would rotate the order every 4 years with Grand Beach so the Village of Michiana would not need to purchase a car for 8 years.

Kathleen Hogan Morrison made a motion to approve the purchase of the new police car in the amount of $43,048; Mike Mintz seconded the motion; motion passed.

**7. Beach Commissioner** – Russell Bruesch reported that he and the council will revisit the Beach Stops in May to make further assessments on which Beach Stops will be opened. Rusty did ask the council to approve a purchase for another set of stairs which are longer than the ones we have now for Stop 42. The cost was under $2,000. Phil Bonello made a motion to approve the new set of stairs not to exceed the $2,000; Mike Mintz seconded the motion; motion passed. Rusty stated there were 2 trees hanging over the bluff at Stop 39 that could fall. Rusty thought with the help of Kris Wulff and Village employees they could be taken down. Kathleen Hogan Morrison felt this was public safety issue and made a motion to allow them to take down the trees; Phil Bonello seconded the motion; motion passed.

**8. Public Works/Water Authority Report –** Superintendent Rick Reitz said he has been in contact with Berrien County Sheriff’s department and has lined up dates for clean up with inmates. Rick Reitz has scheduled them for 2 weeks; April 27 – May 1st and May 18th – May 22. Rick Reitz also enclosed 2 quotes for a tree on Briarwood and Hillside that needs to come down as soon as possible.

The 2 tree companies were Weaver for $3,500 and Norm Tree Service for $1,250. Phil Bonello made a motion to approve the quote for $1,250; Kathleen Hogan Morrison seconded the motion; motion passed. Rick Reitz mentioned there was some park equipment that needs to be removed for public safety, referring to the large slide and zip line as the cable had been broken. Rick Reitz and Anne Heywood have met with a company to help design the park with new equipment and hope to have the cost and design ready for the April or May meeting.

**9. Water Board Report –** Tim Iverson – (Absent)

**10. Clerk Report –** Anne Heywood asked for approval of the check register for March in the amount of $20,223.47; Kathleen Hogan Morrison made a motion to approve the check register as submitted; Phil Bonello seconded the motion; motion passed. Anne Heywood also stated that the January and February check registers were sent to Tim Iverson since both meetings had been cancelled for his signature.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **The Summer Camp would like to change some language in the Lease Agreement**. Still waiting on the changes from the Women’s Club. Tabled
2. **The Village is creating an ordinance requiring contractors with heavy machinery to pull a permit and bond -** Iverson would like to see a 2% fee on top of cost when contractors come in hauling stone since this causes damage to our roads. Tim Iverson is still consulting with Sara Senica the Village Attorney on the language for this Ordinance. Tabled
3. **Brian Hake Audit Report for 2018-2019** – Will be at the April meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **New Schedule for Spring Leaf Pick-up** – Phil Bonello made a motion to approve the new schedule for the leaf pick up; Mike Mintz seconded the motion; motion passed. Anne Heywood stated that this new schedule would be put on the web site and a copy would be mailed to all the homeowners with their water bills. If residents were set up for ACH withdrawal for their water bills a mailing would be going out to them.
2. **New Police Car for 2020-2021 -** This was discussed under police report.
3. **Special Exception for Dennis Anest on Avalon (Lot 5)** – This was table until April meeting.
4. **Tennis/Pickle Ball Court –** AnneHeywood stated Tim Iverson wrote the grant to the Pokagon Fund for the Tennis/Pickle Ball Court and the grant was approved for $24,000. Rick Reitz said the court needs the final sealer which will have to set for 6 weeks and that the fence is almost completed. The courts should be ready by Memorial Day.
5. **Scott Stiffle at 4230 Ponchartrain would like to place rocks by his property and piggyback onto his neighbor’s property at 4250 Ponchartrain using their driveway for access.** ScottStiffle hired Oleska and wanted permission so they could get started. The Council told Scott Stiffle he did not have any of the following items that were requested from the Village; a letter from the Gerbers giving permission, stake survey or any permits from EGLE. Scott Stiffle said he would bring everything to the April meeting. Rusty Bruesch told Scott Stiffle he had his 2 kayaks and asked Scott Stiffle to pick them up.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** TripiKasal wanted to know what the special meeting was about in February. Hogan Morrison explained, the meeting was about the Water Reliability Study and General Plan that is required by the State which must be done every 5 years. Iverson had called the special meeting so the Council could approve Wightman to do the engineer study and allow the study to start as soon as possible. Heywood will make sure that Iverson adds the minutes to the web site.

**Next Meeting Friday, April 10th at 1:00 p.m. (EST)**

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m. (EST)

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Heywood