

VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL MEETING
Friday, May12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. EST

The meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom.

ATTENDEES

Council members: Tim McCarthy, Michael Tolentino, Brian Cassidy, Mike Botelho and Nancy Thill. Also, present were Police Chief Ryan Layman, Water & Street Superintendent Rick Reitz, Village Clerk Anne Heywood, 14 residents present, and 20 participated via Zoom.

First Order of Business

Council President Tim McCarthy asked Village Attorney Sara Senica to review the amended Rules of Procedure for conducting a council meeting to the residents. Sara said there were two new items added; no council member shall use their cell phones during the meeting and if anyone during a minute is disorderly, they will be removed. Tim McCarthy made a motion to amend the Rules of Procedure; motion was seconded by Mike Botelho; a roll call vote was taken all approved 5 ayes 0 nays.

President Tim McCarthy opened the meeting by giving a recap of things happening in the Village; the Michiana Police Commission met with Grand Beach Police Commission discussed future police contract. A brick path has been installed at the other entrance of the pickleball court, the split rail fence and bocci ball court has been stained. Stops are being powered wash. The Tree and Planning Board names have been added to the web page. Looking over Stop 40 with contractors to see if access is feasible. Tim thanked his council and the employees for everything they are doing.

Additions/Deletions – Finance Committee

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only - Anthony Pellus stated he was disappointed in the current garbage service

Consent

Brian Cassidy made a motion to approve the following; Council Meeting April 14, 2023, Check Register/Treasurer report; Nancy Thill seconded the motion; Discussion Michael Tolentino wanted his speech that he read at the last meeting attached to the minutes; Tim McCarthy asked if someone wanted to amend the motion; Brian Cassidy amended his motion to approve the minutes with Michael's statement attached along with the treasurer report as submitted; Mike Botelho

REPORTS:

1. Building Inspector – Building Inspector Chad Butler said that the shelter at Stop 37 is coming along and the contractor is still on target to be finished before Memorial Day.
2. Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Depart. – Chief Gary Bendix (absent)
3. Police/Commission Report – Chief Ryan Layman announced that Saturday, June 24 will be the 2nd annual “Coffee with a Cop”, held at the Village Hall from noon – 2:00p.m. (EST). It was mentioned the Council is working on holding a

CPR class for the residents. Ryan applied for the Deputy Grant asking for “resqmax” for each of the police cars. The officer could use this equipment to save a life if someone was in trouble in the lake. They would release the equipment into the lake where it would turn into a floating device to help. Ryan would like to purchase a Flock camera which is a license reader camera, they cost \$3,000. This camera would help the police when looking for suspicious vehicles when needed in the Village. Tim McCarthy, Brian Cassidy and Police Chief Ryan Layman had their first meeting with Grand Beach President and Police Commissioner.

4. Beach Commissioner - Brian Cassidy brought everyone up to speed on the beach stops. Stop 37 is still under construction and targeted to be completed by Memorial Day. A shower/water fountain will be installed, the fence will be painted and flower pots will be placed there. Stop 37.5 has no path and will remain closed. Kayak racks have now been placed in the correct locations at Stops 38, 39 and 41.5. It was mentioned Stop 42 has a gap in the handrail. Brian said this issue has been addressed. Stop 43 will remain a sunset stop because of the condition of the beach. The integrity of Stop 41 is good, but stairs cannot yet be installed. Stop 40 has some tree roots exposed which could cause trees to fall. There is a possible beach access point south of the Stop. We will be seeking bids from contractors. To determine cost.
5. Public Works, Rick Reitz said Beach Stops 38 and 39 are being power washed. The blue planters have been placed at the stops. In the park, the split rail fence, large swing set, bike rack and bocci ball court have been painted. Another brick path has been installed at the other entrance of the tennis/pickleball courts. The Village porch has been power washed in preparation to be stained.
6. Water - Rick talked about EGLE mandating that every home will have to be checked for cross connection. Rick would like to engage with the company Hydro to do all the inspections. The total cost would be about \$11,000. The council will pay half in 2023 and then pay the balance once the project is completed. Rick said these inspections will have to be done every 5 years.
7. Tree Commission Nancy Thill reported she just received the 95-page report Great Lakes Urban Forestry and will review it and report at the June meeting.
8. Planning Commission –Michael Tolentino had Maureen speak on his behalf of the Master Plan. Maureen Shekleton and Kathleen Hogan Morrison from the Planning Commission gave their recommendation of Abonmarche as the contractor to work on the existing Master Plan. The Gibbs and Wightman proposals were assessed as not addressing all the goals stated in the RFP. Council will look over all three proposals that were received.
9. Clerk - Anne Heywood talked about the kayak lottery; there are 56 spots and a total 44 spots have been taken. Anne said that anyone interested in those available spots should call the Village office. Anne thanked the following residents who planted flowers this year at the Beach Stops; Kim Hughes, Brian and Mardia Cassidy, Roxanne & Rocco Martino, Karen Shoshana, Renee Okonek & Family, The Willey Family and the mystery resident at Stop 38! A

shout out Tim McCarthy for his 12th year donating the hanging baskets on the Village porch. THANK YOU EVERYONE!!

OLD BUSINESS

1. Stop 37 and 40 were talked about under Beach Commissioner report.
2. Treasurers position is still open and council was taking applications.
3. Tim McCarthy talked briefly about the Finance Committee that at the moment we need to hire a Treasurer before putting together a committee or policy. Michael Tolentino stated that he has stepped off the finance committee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Council had the first reading of the 2023/2024 budget. Tim mentioned that Anne and Lori Nelson reviewed the budget together. Lori Nelson put together a pie chart for the Council with Anne's help. Tim McCarthy had Lori explain the chart to the residents to help understand the budget. Michael Tolentino wanted to ask questions about the budget, Tim explained that all the council members reviewed the budget and met with Anne to discuss any questions they might had. He asked Michael if he reached out to Anne and Michael had not. There was discussion that copies of the budget would be available at the office to review. The Council did not want the budget posted on the website. The council took a vote to allow a draft copy of the budget to be taken out of the office but residents needed to sign the release and eventual return of the draft to the Village Clerk. Roll call vote was taken 4 ayes and 1 nay motion passed. Tim McCarthy made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2023-2024 Budget; a roll call vote was taken 5 ayes and 0 nays; the first reading of the budget passed. The adoption of the budget will be at the June meeting.
2. The Village garbage contract with Lakeshore is ending June 30th. There were 2 bids submitted from Lakeshore and Republic. Tim McCarthy asked both vendors if they would allow an annual review of the 3-year contract to protect the Village based on quality of service. Both vendors agreed to those terms. Michael Tolentino made a motion to accept Republic 3-year contract with a review every year. If the Village was unhappy with the Service the Village could walk away from the contract with no penalties. This would be called a 1+ 1+ 1+ contract. Nancy Thill seconded the motion. After much discussion the Council took a roll call vote; 5 ayes and 0 nays. The new contract was awarded to Republic for garbage and recycle service. The new garbage service Republic will start July 1 – The Council thanked Lakeshore for their service for the past 14 years. Republic will provide the following services:
 - 2 new garbage cans (garbage and recycle)
 - Garbage and Recycle pickup will remain on the same: Every Monday will be garbage pickup, and every other Monday will be recycled pickup with the exception of Memorial Day through Labor Day Recycle when recycle pick up will be every Monday
 - Every garbage day you are allowed to put ONE large item next to your cans

- Grass clippings, twigs and branches, bagged or unbagged, can be placed in your garbage can along with your trash. If you have large bunches of sticks or branches, they must be bundled with twine and placed next to your can. They will take yard waste all year.
- More information will be coming and will be posted on the website.
- The only thing the garbage company cannot take is LEAVES; the Village will continue to collect leaves in the fall and spring cleanup.

Lakeshore will be removing all their cans once the new contract takes over July 1st. The 2 companies will work together to ensure a smooth transition.

3. Discussion on the Village Hall Project was tabled until the June meeting.
4. Michiana Day Camp will be using the pickleball courts on Tuesdays and Thursdays during camp. A sign will be posted at the courts with days and times the camp will be using it.
5. Closed Session to discuss written material exempt from public disclosure under Section 8 (h) of the Open Meetings Act.

Public Comment:

Anthony Pellus asked if the park was going to be leveled out and hydro seeded in the park in the fall.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Heywood-Clerk