**VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL MEETING**

**Friday, September 9, 2022**

The meeting was held in person and by virtual Zoom meeting. President Joann Fisher, called the meeting to order. Present were Michael Tolentino, Tim McCarthy and Nancy Thill. Brian Cassidy was present on the zoom call since he had tested positive for COVID. Also, present Police Chief Ryan Layman, Water & Street Superintendent Rick Reitz, Clerk Anne Heywood, and 13 residents on zoom and 25 present at the Village Hall.

Joann Fisher opened the meeting with a recognition of the Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department and First Responders Kris Wulff, Mick Wulff, Mike Chastain and Michiana Police Officer Patrick Myers for their services on Tuesday evening, August 16th at 5:20 p.m.

They were the first ones on the scene of the 911 call to the Michiana pickleball Courts. Chief Layman presented them with Certificates for their service. Police Commissioner, Tim McCarthy, explained how our Police Department, First Responders and the people in the Village Park attended to a medical emergency that took place on the pickleball courts. Everyone worked together. Tim McCarthy said this special recognition was for our first responders, our police and firemen, to say thank you for everything they do!

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** –Dune grass at Stop 39 and Pickleball Update

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No comments were made by residents

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND TREASURER REPORT**

Council Meeting minutes– August 12, 2022

Treasurer Report & Check Register

Joann Fisher made a motion to approve the above reports.

Nancy Thill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Joann moved the pickleball update first on the agenda so that they could get back to setting up for the tournament. Lisa Zirpolo and Karen Harty shared details on the Pickleball tournament that will take place Saturday & Sunday, September 10 & 11. They are expecting over 100 participants and all funds collected will be going back to the Village. The courts will be closed starting Monday, September 12th for approximately two weeks for repairs.

**Building Inspector Report** - Bill Lambert reported a lack of construction materials continue to be a problem for the contractors. He also met with an architect for Stop 37 regarding design of shelter and stairs.

**Fire Chief Report** – Chief Bendix was absent – Mike Chastain gave report. Joann Fisher reminded everyone that the Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department pancake breakfast fundraiser is Sunday, October 9th, 2022. The hours are from 7:00A.M. until Noon Central.

**Police/Commission Report** - Chief Ryan Layman reminded us as the summer season is starting to wind down, so please contact the Police if you notice anything unusual.

**Beach Commissioner** – Joann reported for Brian Cassidy that the letter of Inquiry for Stop 37 was sent to the Pokagon Fund. We will be notified by September 21st from the Pokagon Fund if the Stop 37 project is approved.

**Public Works Report** – Rick Reitz said there are three areas of roadway in the Village that are in need of repair due to water line related issues. Those areas will be paved sometime next week. Rick said they picked up 2 kayaks off the beach at Stop 37 ½. The leaf vac is in for service, getting ready for leaf pick up starting in November.

**Water Board Report** – Tim McCarthy reported for Brian Cassidy on several water projects ongoing in the Village. The Village is currently negotiating a new contract with Michigan City Water Department. The Village traded in a 500 gallon per minute pump and received a $20,000 credit towards the purchase of the new replacement, a 750 gallon pump for the pumping station. The Creek Drive water line project is moving along. There will be a special meeting at the end of the month to review bids for the Creek Project. The Chlorination project is still waiting on parts. The two holding tanks at the pumping station will be cleaned by a team of divers this month. We are hoping to have the next water bills printed on a postcard (mailing in early October). Anne stated 200 residents are enrolled in the ACH for water bills and would like more residents to sign up. The ACH form is on the Village website.

**Clerk Report -** Anne Heywood reported $1,285 was collected for the daffodils and Dan Healy will oversee this landscaping project at the Village Hall.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Park Update - Joann Fisher and Tim McCarthy reported on the park: the large playground equipment will be installed in October; two six foot fences behind the Basketball backboards were approved; the Village is looking into coordinating the roof on the pavilion by the brick walkway with the Buford Pavilion roof; smallest pavilion will be removed due to safety (not stable and wood is rotted); waiting for a quote for a pathway and landscaping; signage will be designed over the winter for the final park dedication Memorial Day Weekend 2023.
2. No update on the Street Grant.
3. Kathleen Hogan Morrison reported on the Law Suit with New Buffalo Township. The Michigan Municipality Legal Defense Fund, (the most influential organization in Michigan regarding the interests of Villages and Cities,) is filing a supportive amicus brief in favor of the Village in the Court of Appeals. The Village attorney considers this to be a huge win since this organization is particular about what cases they take on.
4. Dune Grass at Stop 39: Nancy Thill shared three quotes for planting dune grass at Stop 39. Superior came in at $12,000, Northshore was $9,800 and Dean Wassink came in at $8,400. Nancy would like to use Northshore because the price was not that much more plus Northshore was giving us more plants. They could start the project in late October. Nancy made a motion to move forward with Northshore for $9,800, Tim McCarthy seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Anne Heywood shared information concerning Lyme Disease: residents need to take precautions to protect themselves from ticks; culling the deer is not feasible at this time.
2. Joann Fisher received a letter that Rusty Bruesch’s sister Karen found at his home. Joann read the list written by Rusty of how unique Michiana is; we often lose sight of how wonderful our Village is and the services provided by past and present Village Councils and Officers. May we continue to add to this list.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Candidate Michelle Hannon spoke about her campaign for County Commissioner. She lives on Dogwood and her son is a Michiana Day Camper.

Brian Cassidy wanted to thank his council members for filling in for him while he has been under the weather.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Heywood

Village Clerk