**VILLAGE OF MICHIANA SPECIAL MEETING**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022 AT 2:00 P.M. (EST)**

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS THAT VILLAGE RESIDENTS SUPPORT FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IN OUR THREE TO FIVE YEAR PLAN.

Joann Fisher called the meeting to order. Present were; Kathleen Hogan Morrison, Tim McCarthy, Brian Cassidy, Michael Tolentino, Anne Heywood/Clerk, Chief Layman, Rick Reitz, 13 Village Residents present, as well as 16 Residents via Zoom.

Joann Fisher added two items of business to the agenda; appeal for lawsuit with New Buffalo Township and water pressure problems on Lake Shore Drive. Joann asked the council for approval to add these to the agenda; all were in favor.

Joann Fisher stated that Village Attorney, Sara Senica, received the court order in the mail, which was dated and signed by the Judge the same day as the hearing. Sara Senica requested the Village Council to discuss and consider a motion for appealing the court ruling before July 15th to allow her time to file the appeal. Joann explained to the Council that they would still have time for further discussions on the ruling at the July 15th Council meeting if they decided to dismiss moving forward with an appeal. The Council voted to file for an appeal; roll call vote was taken 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Rick Reitz had met with Council member Tim McCarthy regarding a few homes on Lake Shore Drive that had no water pressure into their homes. Tim McCarthy said these homeowners have had work done at their homes to try to increase water pressure but the main problem appears to be the lack of pressure from the Villages water line. Tim McCarthy made a motion to approve a bid provided by Woodruff to install new lines for $18,000; Michael Tolentino seconded the motion; there was discussion that prices could go up; Tim McCarthy amended the motion not to exceed $20,000; Joann Fisher seconded; a roll call vote was taken 5 ayes and 0 nays; motion passed. Tim McCarthy also stated the money to pay for this project would be coming directly from the Villages water bond and would therefore not require any additional special assessment to our residents.

**Capital Improvements Ideas**

Michael Tolentino opened the meeting explaining the main intent, which was to hear directly from village residents regarding capital improvement projects they would like to see the community undertake in the next few years. Michael Tolentino said the meeting was an open mic opportunity for our residents to express their ideas directly to the Council.

**Street Paving** - several residents expressed concern over the poor condition of streets, such as Cherokee and East Court, caused by heavy equipment coming into the Village.

Joann Fisher said the Village applied for a grant through MDOT for street paving and the streets mentioned were among several targeted for resurfacing. The Village should know by August if the grant has been approved. The paving would take place in early Spring of 2023.

**Trees -** Residents mentioned when the Village did the large water project down Ponchartrain, some of trees were marked with red X’s that needed to be trimmed so they would not grow into the electrical wires. Later black X’s were marked over the red X’s so these trees were never trimmed. There was discussion regarding dead trees and trees that needed trimming that are hanging over roadways. The Council suggested we contact AEP and have them mark any trees growing into the wires. There was talk about invasive plants along Lake Shore Drive, such as Periwinkle, which should be removed to prevent further spread throughout the area.

**Beach Stop 37** - Residents expressed interest in having a covered shelter added to Stop 37. They felt that many people believe that Stop 37 sits on the Indiana side of the state line. This is the first stop in Michiana and residents would like to see all the Michiana shelters look the same**.** Residents talked about Stop 43 and when it could have a permanent shelter added.

**Speed Bumps** - Residents would like to see speed bumps added around the park area – permanent or seasonally removable. Some residents would like to see them added on other streets as well throughout the Village.

**Michael Tolentino read through the correspondence that was received prior to the meeting:**

Ellen Goldrick had a few items including: water infrastructure, paving, building up the dunes, improvements to the Village Hall, beach stop structures, Village equipment such as computer systems and police cars, looking at new solar installation/environmental improvements.

Sheila Stein would like a few more benches on Lake Shore Drive and would like to see Stop 37 have a new shelter similar to the other Stops.

Jon Peterson thought the Village should look at the large white retaining wall along Michiana Drive near the Village Hall which is starting to lean more heavily toward the street.

Renee Okonek was interested in speed bumps on Oriole Trail.

Jurate Landwehr sent information to the Village about speed tables as an alternative to speed bumps.

Michael Tolentino thanked everyone for attending and providing their input to the Council. All suggestions will be reviewed to help develop a 3 to 5 year plan on capital improvements for the Village.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm (est)

Respectfully submitted

Anne Heywood

Village Clerk