**VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL MEETING**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2022**

**at 1:18 p.m. (EST)**

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA –** Add Stop 39 Proposal for Backfill.

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes –** Joann Fisher made a motion to approve the May 13, 2022, minutes; Michael Tolentino seconded the motion; motion passed.

**Rules and Procedures regarding residents’ participation during a Council meeting were moved up on the agenda under New Business** – Joann stated that residents would be able to participate and interact with the Council two times during a meeting. The first public comment session would occur before the reports on agenda items are presented. All comments at this time should be specific to items on the meeting agenda. The second public comment session will be before the close of the meeting. Comments at this time can be in rebuttal to any Village business conducted during the meeting as well as any general comments outside of the meeting’s agenda. The purpose of this new format is to assure that all of our residents will have an opportunity to share their opinion on any issue with the Council. There was some discussion from residents in attendance regarding public interaction with the council after any agenda item. The Council acknowledged the need to have additional participation outside of the two scheduled public sessions on certain agenda items, and would leave it to the discretion of the Village President to open the meeting up to public comments if needed.

**REPORTS:**

**1. Building Inspector Report –** Bill Lambert gave report – Joann Fisher asked if there was an update on Dr. Kerelis’ roof which has not been completed. Bill will contact the homeowner and report back at the next meeting.

**2. Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department –** Fire Chief Garry Bendix absent. (Report on file)

**3****. Police/Commission Report –** Chief Ryan Layman thanked everyone who attended the Coffee with a Cop event and plans to host another event in the future. Chief Layman had the following reminders for our residents; remember to keep dogs on a leash at all times and make sure your car doors are locked. Chief Layman ordered life rings that will be placed at each of the beach stops only to be used for an emergency!

**4. Beach Commissioner –** Russel Bruesch reported that our beaches looked great and are ready for summer. Rusty asked that our residents help us to monitor the drinking fountains at the Stops specifically that they are not left stuck in an on position to minimize water cost to the Village.

**5. Public Works/Water Authority Report –** Superintendent Rick Reitz has been in contact with Michigan City Port Authority to have the buoys placed in the water. Rick said the drinking fountains have been filled with sand causing issues, so please don’t put sand in the base of the drinking fountain. Rick said Josh finished cleaning and painting the basement for the Day Camp. Rick said they have been working on cutting brush back along our roadways. They installed a temporary fence at Stop 39 to stop people from accessing the beach via the dune as opposed to using the stairs.

**6. Water Board Report**  Rick Reitz is still waiting on a part so he can finish the Chlorination project. Worked on lead and copper reports, the CCR report is complete and can be found on the Village web page. Rick would like to have a water meeting sometime this month with Tim McCarthy and Brian Cassidy to talk about future water projects.

**7. Clerk/Treasurer Report –** Anne Heywoodasked for approval of the check register in the amount of $91,717.64; Joann Fisher made a motion to approve the register as submitted; Kathleen Hogan Morrison seconded the motion; motion passed. Anne reported we have $36,296 in the Pokagon fund. Anne thanked the golf committee, Ryan Layman, Nancy Thill, Berta Beranek, Rick Turim and Lisa Zirpolo, for all their help. The event would not have been as successful with them! Anne thanked all (64) golfers, the sponsors and Pottawattamie Country Club for hosting the event. The Golf Outing made approximately $9,500 but still waiting for the final numbers from the Club. Anne reminded the residents to mark their calendars for Friday, July 8th for the first live band performance that will take place in the park by the new pavilion. Thank you to Steve Dorf for recommending the “South of Disorder” band, who cover Jimmy Buffett music. So, bring your chairs and come join us, music will start at 6:30 p.m. (EST).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1.**  **Park Update** – Joann Fisher reported they had a good turnout for the park rededication over Memorial Day. Rusty Bruesch did the honors of cutting the ribbon. Nancy Thill designed the Thank You banners hanging in the park, while Tim McCarthy and Michael Tolentino served root beer floats to attendees. Joann reported on a few new things happening in the park; Pizzo landscaping planted seven new trees around the park and the Musical Garden equipment should be arriving next week. We received another $25,000 in donations plus $9,500 from the golf outing. This additional funding made it possible to place the order for the largest piece of playground equipment proposed under our planned park renovation project. Joann thanked the people of Michiana for making this park happen. Next week AEP will be doing the final hook up for the electric at the Buford Pavilion in the park.

2. **Lawsuit Update with New Buffalo Township –** Attorney Sara Senica appeared in court May 31st in regards to the lawsuit. The Judge ruled in favor of New Buffalo Township. Attorney Senica will now wait for the signed transcript from the Judge. The Village will have 30 days to file for an appeal on the ruling.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Grant from MDOT –** Joann said the Village isapplying for a grant from MDOT for road paving. The application is due June 15th along with the Resolution 2022-002 that states this is a 50/50 match. The Village is requesting $130,000 and this Resolution states the Village commits to providing half, which is $65,000 towards the construction cost of the project. Joann said the Village should know sometime in August if the grant is approved. If the grant is awarded to the Village the paving would take place in early Spring of 2023.
2. **Stop 39 Amend Budget** – Kathleen Hogan Morrison said at the last meeting that after the council made a motion to approve the stairs at Stop 39 for $40,000 the council needed to amend the budget for this project. Kathleen Hogan Morrison made a motion to approve the $40,000 for the new stairs at Stop 39; Tim McCarthy seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken; motion passed 5 ayes 0 nays.
3. **Seconded Reading of 2022/2023 Budget** – Joann made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 Budget; Tim McCarthy seconded the motion; a roll call vote was taken; motion passed 5 ayes and 0 nays. Joann said residents who would like to view the budget can stop by the office.
4. **Rule of Procedure** – Moved to the beginning of the meeting.
5. **New Proposal for Stop 39 –** Kathleen Hogan Morrison said she received the proposal from North Shore for backfilling Stop 39 to rebuild the face of the dune by trucking in sand and having it conveyed over the top of the bluff behind the trap bags. Kathleen made a motion to accept the North Shore proposal to do the work, which included filling in roughly 220 linear feet by 4 feet high tapered up the dune by 4 to 10 feet. Kathleen sought approval to pay North Shore no more than $25,000 to do the sand backfill and installation at Stop 39. The company estimated that 300 to 400 yards of sand would fill the area. The maximum amount of sand to be used is 400 yards. The sand costs $60 per yard. Total proposed cost: 400 yards X $60 = $24,000. Kathleen asked for a $25,000 limit in case of additional materials or labor. The job is to be completed by June 30, 2022. The sand will be trucked in and then put behind the trap bags by use of a conveyor truck and bobcat from the street; Brian Cassidy seconded the motion; there was some discussion among the council; roll call vote was taken; motion passed 5 ayes and 0 nays.
6. **Special Meeting June 24th** - Michael Tolentino announced the Council will be holding a Special Meeting on Friday, June 24. The purpose of the meeting was to hear from residents regarding capital projects they thought were important for the Village to consider. The Council will then draft a 2 or 3 year plan taking into consideration the residents’ input when working on future years budgets.

**PUBLIC COMMENT /CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Mayfield’s thanked the council for the stairs at Stop 39.

Chief Layman reminded everyone about fireworks. Renters may not set off fireworks. Residents must set off fireworks on their private property and no fireworks on public streets or beaches. Fireworks can only be used from June 29 – July 4th until 11:45 p.m. (EST)

**Joann announced some of the upcoming events:**

July 8, First Concert in Park

July 30\_31, Women’s Club Pickleball Tournament

August 13, Village Party

**Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm (EST)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Heywood/Clerk