**VILLAGE OF MICHIANA**

**MICHIANA COUNCIL MEETING**

**Friday, November 13, 2020**

The meeting was held by Virtual “Go to Meeting”. Mike Mintz, Linda Stein, Joann Fisher, Phil Bonello and Kathleen Hogan Morrison were present on the call, as well as Police Chief Ryan Layman, and Clerk Anne Heywood, and 34 Village residents dialed in to listen and participate. Water & Street Superintendent Rick Reitz, and Building Inspector Bill Lambert were absent from the call.

**Addition to Agenda – N/A**

**Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2020**

Kathleen Hogan Morrison made a motion to approve the council meeting minutes from October 9, 2020; Linda Stein seconded the motion; motion approved.

**REPORTS**

**1. Building Inspector Report** - Bill Lambert was not in attendance.

**2. Treasurer’s Report –** Cheryl Cook (Absent). Anne Heywood stated there is $2,620,335.88 in total funds, and as of October 31, 2020 the Pokagon fund has $29,376.00.

**3. Tree Inspector Report –** Kris Wulff was not in attendance.

**4. Fire Chief Report** – Chief Gary Bendix was not in attendance. Report on file

**5. Police Commissioner Report** – Russell Bruesch reminded the residents if they would like to sign up for home inspections for the winter to call the police department or the clerk’s office.

**6. Police Report –** Chief Ryan Layman reported 49 complaints for the month. He is working on the Policy and Procedure with Lexipol and said it will take about 6 months to get the program up and running. Chief Layman wanted to also thank the residents for the fast return of the emergency form and voting to support the renewal of the safety millage.

**7. Beach Commissioner Report** – Russell Bruesch stated the beaches were holding up pretty well. He hopes they will hold up until Spring. Rusty and Rick met at Stop 42 and decided to leave the portable stairs in place since there is a lot of beach in front of them. Rusty did say they would continue to watch them and if needed they will remove them. Rusty said if the beaches hold up, they may be able to open Stop 37 and he has a plan for Stop 39 he would like to discuss with Rick. Mike asked about Stop 38. Rusty said it looks good, but the structures in the water are a hazard.

**8. Public Works/Water Authority Report** – Rick Reitz had been excused from meeting so that he and Josh could continue picking up leaves.

**9. Water Board Report –** Rick Reitz – There was no report from Rick. The Michigan Water Department has been working on Michiana Drive to get two streets, Red Wing and Hoosier Drive hooked up to Michigan City water. The Michigan City Water Department will clean up the mess it left on the Michiana parking area. Linda asked how long the project would take. On another issue, the Village is still waiting on the Liability Report from EGLE.

**10. Clerk Report** – Anne Heywood asked for a motion to approve the check register for $45,734.69. Kathleen Hogan Morrison made a motion to approve the check register for October in the amount of $45,734.69; Linda Stein seconded the motion; motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Update on Playground Meeting –** Joann Fisher reported that she had gathered information to move forward with Jon Ruble of Planned Environment Associates to create a blue print master plan for the park. The plan will include a lay out of the park and equipment placed on the survey done by Wightman. Kathleen Hogan Morrison said she thought Joann was asking for a vote authorizing Jon Ruble to begin the process of developing the master plan. The plan would then be reviewed by the Park Community and then submitted to the Council for final approval. Joann and the Park Committee want to hire Jon Ruble for the plan and pay his service fee of $3,000. Mike Mintz said that money had already been budgeted so that the Council could vote now. The council then approved moving forward with the master plan for the park design to be completed by Jon Ruble for $3,000.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Letter of Inquiry for Pokagon Grant –** Mike Mintz explained that a Letter of Inquiry is required to request the grant from the Pokagon Fund to improve Stop 41 ½. The Village is waiting for the drawing of the improvements. Anne said once the Pokagon approved the letter for Stop 41 ½ then the Village can move forward in writing the grant application for the improvements to Stop 41 ½. Mike asked Anne who would be helping to write the letter. Anne asked if one of the council members would help; and she said she had all Tim Iverson’s paperwork that he had submitted for prior Pokagon Fund requests. Kathleen Hogan Morrison volunteered to help write the Letter of Inquiry to the Pokagon Fund. Anne asked for a roll call vote from the council supporting the project and to move forward with the letter. A roll call vote was then taken with 5 ayes – 0 nays.

**2. Contract for Yard Waste –** Joann said the Village plans to contract with Lakeshore from April 1 through October 31 to pick up yard waste, which must be placed either in toters provided by Lakeshore for $21.00 a year to rent or in brown paper bags that residents provide. The brown paper bags are limited to 5 a week for pick up. The cost for this service is $17.50 for the 7 months, which would be invoiced at $4.38 per quarterly water bill. Linda said the reason for this service is to beautify the park so it is not used as a garbage dump all year. Use of this service will free up Josh and Rick to work on other projects needed for the Village. The Village will still have leaf pick up in the fall and early spring. Kathleen made a motion to approve this contract. Linda seconded the motion and asked how this information will be communicated to the residents. Anne said a letter could be put in the January water bill, that an email blast could be sent, and the matter could be posted on the Village web site. A roll call vote was taken 5 ayes – 0 nays motion approved. Nancy Bernstein asked if all residents would be charged for this service; Mike Mintz said they would be.

**3. Pickle Ball Update –** Danny Bernstein, Nancy Bernstein and Lisa Zirpolo have graciously volunteered to be the pickle ball liaisons, which means they will report to the Council if there is something that needs the attention of the Village. Danny Bernstein will work with Rick when it is time to dismantle the nets for the winter and make sure all the equipment is stored correctly. Danny will cap off the holes where the poles go with inserters to keep the water out.Lisa Zirpolo will be in charge of any donations made to the GoFundMe page and will monthly take the money and transfer over to the Village which will go into a separate account for the pickle ball/tennis courts. Lisa stated she already gave the Village $2,172 and since then has collected another $650. Lisa stated that these donations are from Michiana residents and from residents from surrounding areas.

Nancy Bernstein thanked the Council again for approving the courts to be fixed. The overall success of the usage is great. Nancy will discuss constructive criticism received, as well as requested items for purchase if needed.Nancy also stated that ABC Asphalt did the surface and there were low areas in the surface. ABC Asphalt will be fixing this at no cost to the Village. Linda Stein asked if this was documented somewhere. Lisa has the paper work from ABC Asphalt stating that it would fix the problem**.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mike Mintz asked ifEllen Grose was listening on the line to discuss her correspondence, but she was not available. As a result, her letter was not read and discussed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Attorney John Wojcik representing homeowner Steve and Donna McKenna at 4315 Lake Shore. John stated he had spoken with Village Attorney Sara Senica about a perpetual license to allow armor stone and toe stone to be placed in front of the seawall for the revetment on the McKenna property. Attorney John Wojcik said he had discussed with Sara Sencia that the stone would be on placed on Village property. Mr. McKenna has engineer drawings showing what his proposal would look like. Mike Mintz said he talked with Sara Senica and Steve McKenna stating the council will be looking at the drawing and will be discussing it at the next meeting.

Lisa Zirpolo asked Anne if there was some type of tax letter from the Village for donations Anne stated that she could do a short letter stating a donation was made for a 501-C.

Joel Dennenberg, 4149 Creek Drive, asked if we will continue doing Virtual meetings. Ryan stated yes as of right now until the end of the year.

Mike Mintz made a motion to end the meeting; Joann Fisher seconded; motion passed. Mike Mintz adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Heywood

Michiana Clerk