

VILLAGE OF LUTHER

REGULAR MEETING (Location: Village Hall)

May 14th, 2024

Approved

President Treiber called the meeting to order @ 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Andy Treiber, Felicia Wert, James Bacon, Connie Holmes, Brittany Carlson, Carrie Fansler, Michelle Goodman, Tiffany Clark

Members Absent: Amy Jo Dejesus

Visitor's Present: Kim Miller, Brent Ruppert, Diane Longoria, Don Porter, Al Greenman, Larry Charles

Public Comment- Don wanted to know why the second driveway was blocked at the cemetery, Treiber will investigate.

Agenda: Holmes made a motion, 2nd by Carlson to approve the agenda with addition of new business number 5 trees and 6 Lincoln Creek Road, all in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence- Review, Mika Myers newsletter; Letter from JD Tiffany and Associates.

Property Foreclosure from Lake County Treasurer. Clark made a motion the Village passes on the foreclosure, seconded by Holmes; All In favor: Clark, Goodman, Holmes, Carlson, Bacon; Abstain: Wert; Motion carried. Carlson stated Commissioner Raymond came to Ellsworth and with communication from blight information from the State of Michigan. The ORV Park in Baldwin is opening May 25th.

Minutes: Carlson made a motion to approve the regular minutes dated April 9th, 2024, seconded by Clark. All in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report: The Financial Report was presented dated April 2024 with the following balances: General Fund \$274,562.84; Major Street Fund \$153,885.42; Local Street Fund \$169,577.85; Payroll Fund \$1,081.46, Petty Cash Fund \$778.56; Park Improvement Fund \$23,398.73. A motion was made by Holmes made a motion to accept the financial report as presented, seconded by Clark, All in favor. Motion carried.

Bills- The following bills were presented: Consumers Energy DPW \$87.50; Consumers Energy Street Lights \$672.69; Consumers Energy Street Lights LED \$664.22; Consumers Energy Linden \$50.91; Cv Kwik Mart \$93.00; \$; Republic Services \$358.27; Brookes Elite Contracting \$119.00; Flies & Vandenbrink \$2680.00; Flies & Vandenbrink \$4,020.00; Crystal Flash Propane DPW \$514.67; BS&A Tax service \$283.00; Staples (toner) \$170.12; OCD May and April \$180.00; Leroy Hardware \$251.06; Clark made a motion to approve, seconded by Holmes, Roll call vote –Yes- Carlson, Holmes, Bacon, Treiber, Wert, Goodman, Clark. Motion Carried.

New Business-

1. Pine River Bond: Ruppert presented upcoming Bond renewal, there is a 0.00 mil increase to taxes. The bond renewal would be for septic system upgrades and HVAC upgrades. A pipe to the current drain filed is broken.
2. Judge Candidate: Diane Longoria introduced herself and her community involvement.
3. Library Trustee: Fansler reported the library has an opening for the library board.
4. OCD payroll services: Fansler reported the Village was notified by OCD stating payroll services will end June 1st. Fansler has reached out to UHY and discussed Clark possibly processing payroll with an upgrade to the QuickBooks program. Carlson noted Cadillac Accounting for Ellsworth. Treiber stated he liked the idea of having an outside accounting firm processing payroll, W2's, and tax filing. Fansler will request a Cadillac Account quote and reach out to OCD for an extension.
5. Trees: Wert asked if the Village was going to pay for the trees that are dead to be taken down. Treiber noted the DPW will if the trees are small. There are some trees James Tree Service will need to take down and will only pay for trees in the right a way. Wert asked about the stumps, Treiber said he talked to James Tree Service regarding the stump gridding. Wert said her aunt was going to hire another company and she feels the other company should invoice the village. Discussion was held and Treiber noted the bill would not be paid by the village.
6. Lincoln Creek Road: Wert asked if gravel could be placed where Lincoln Creek meets the pavement to build that section up and noted that M. Pulaskey said he had extra gravel and could do that. Treiber said he would need to talk to Matt because he doesn't know where the extra gravel is.

Old Business-

1. **Blight Update:** Treiber noted the committee hasn't moved forward with a plan due to lack of members and recommends blight enforcement should be paused. Fansler asked if the blight committee has scheduled meetings. The blight committee will meet May 29th for their first meeting and create a schedule for further meetings. Wert explained another municipality has a blight officer that is paid monthly to issue citations.

Committee Reports-

DPW- Bacon noted the tractor leak isn't as bad and only leaks when in four-wheel drive, it doesn't need to be addressed right away. Treiber stated the roads will begin cold patch. Clark asked if heavy equipment going down embankment by the campsite was tearing the road up. Treiber said the road was not impacted when he drove by. The DPW met with Perrin Newhalf and they will provide design ideas. Matt P. will begin inspecting drains, filling holes, and trimming bushes that encroach on the roads to improve intersection view.

Hall Committee-Nothing to report. Andy requested joint meeting with Newkirk and the Village at the Newkirk meeting.

Fire Board- Treiber said there are no minutes from last meeting. Wert said the CPR machine has been ordered. The grant has been reimbursement has been received, Treiber will give the check to Don.

Planning Committee- Nothing to report.

Ordinance Committee- Nothing to report.

Blight committee- No update

Community Improvement Committee- Meeting minutes provided. The flowerpot adoption was successful, and all pots were adopted within an hour. The committee requested the pots be filled by Memorial Day. Earth day event was a success. There is nothing planned for June. The next event is scheduled for August 24th and will remind the board of the road closure. Goodman said Jodi Nichols is coming to the North Bar Friday to meet with members of the Village, if anyone wants to join, they are welcome.

Treiber said flags in Veterans Park will be up before Memorial Day.

Public comment: Al Green inquired on tree removal on his property. The trees are too bad for him to remove on his own and they are in the Village right away. Longoria said the Rotary may be willing to donate trees if the Village is replacing trees.

A motion to adjourn was made by Holmes seconded by Bacon. All in Favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:06 pm.

Carrie Fansler
Village of Luther Clerk