

**Village of Lakewood Club**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 24, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by President Pro tem Mark Spencer at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: President Pro tem Mark Spencer, Trustee Sarah Swanson, Debbie Houtteman, Rusty Morningstar, Tammy Verhoeven, Jared Semelbauer, Street Administrator Rick Budde, Treasurer Hannah Swanson, and Clerk Wendy Bloem. Absent: President Mike McGahan

ACCEPT OR AMEND AGENDA:

Motion by Trustee S. Swanson, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to amend and approve the amendment to the May 24, 2021 meeting agenda. Amend to add Public Comment at the beginning of the meeting and keep Public Comment at the end of the meeting. Roll call: R. Morningstar- **Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**, Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

SPECIAL:

Clerk Bloem opened and read two bids from White Lake Excavating and McCormick Sand Inc. for road upgrades to Michigan (from Automobile West to Beverly), Washington (from Automobile West to Beverly), and Beverly (from Washington North to White Lake Dr.). White Lake Excavating's bid is \$79,500, McCormick's Sand's bid is \$76,900. Street Superintendent Rick Budde stated that the Village Council budgeted \$30,000 for this project, he did not think the bids would come in this high. He will contact the contractors and let them know that the project is on hold.

WORK SESSION MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee D. Houtteman, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to approve the Work Session meeting minutes for April 26, 2021 as submitted by Clerk Bloem. Roll call: R. Morningstar- **Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion by T. Verhoeven, second from Trustee S. Swanson to approve the meeting minutes for April 26, 2021 as submitted by Clerk Bloem. Roll call: S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar- **Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Motion by Trustee J. Semelbauer, second from Trustee D. Houtteman to accept the May 2021 Treasurer's report as submitted by Treasurer Hannah Swanson. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-Aye, R. Morningstar-Aye, D. Houtteman-Aye, T. Verhoeven-Aye, J. Semelbauer-Aye, Pro tem M. Spencer-Aye. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, **Motion Carried.**

FINANCE REPORT:

Motion by T. Verhoeven, second from Trustee R. Morningstar to accept the finance report and pay the bills for the month of May 2021. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-Aye, R. Morningstar-Aye, D. Houtteman-Aye, T. Verhoeven-Aye, J. Semelbauer-Aye, President Pro-tem M. Spencer-Aye. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Committee:

Trustee M. Spencer reported that the Senior Resource Community did not meet this month.

Lake Committee:

Trustee S. Swanson has concerns with the geese in the park. She has been in contact with President McGahan regarding this situation. Trustee S Swanson informed Clerk Bloem that one of the pilings on the fishing deck has a crack going down it. Clerk Bloem contacted the company that installed the pilings and they came out to check the crack and said it was not a safety issue.

Liquor Inspections: 3 inspections, Fox Lake General Store, Nite Spot Bar and Lakewood Quick Stop.

Ordinance Enforcement: report submitted to Council for review.

Building Inspections: Inspection on file for review,

Park:

Park Superintendent Rick Budde reported that we are in dire need of Park Rangers, the kids are out of control in the park. He also reported that the bathroom roof had to be repaired and re-shingled.

Streets and Maintenance:

Street Administrator Rick Budde stated that he knows the residents are upset about the dusty roads, the company will be out to brine the first week of June, weather permitting. Rick stated that he would usually brine the roads until the company comes out, but the well where he gets brine water has been shut down by the State due to violations they have to repair.

Planning Commission Meeting:

Clerk Bloem stated that the Planning Commission, after making amendments, are reviewing chapters 3, 4, and 6 for spelling and punctuation errors.

Human Resource Committee: no meeting

Lots:

Mary Kilmer stated that the Village sold one single adjoining lot.

Set Calendar:

**The Village of Lakewood Club office will be closed on Monday May 31, 2021 in observance of Memorial Day. According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services a face mask is required to enter the Village Hall if you have not had a COVID vaccine.** The Human Resource meeting will be held if needed on Wednesday June 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. **\*\*The Planning Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday June 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. The Village work session meeting will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., the regular meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m. Notice the Village meetings will be held in person at the Village Hall, until further notice.**

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Fireworks:

Clerk Bloem stated that the Council needs to approve by motion, to file the application for fireworks, to approve the permit to display fireworks, to possess fireworks and to approve the purchase of fireworks from Wolverine Fireworks Inc. in the amount of \$7,600.00.

Motion by Trustee S. Swanson, second from Trustee S. Houtteman to give Rick Budde on behalf of the Village of Lakewood the approval to file the application for fireworks, to approve the permit to shoot fireworks, to approve the permit to possess fireworks, and to approve the purchase of fireworks from Wolverine Fireworks Inc. in the amount of \$7,600.00. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: None. **Motion Carried.**

B. Village credit/debit card:

Clerk Bloem will put together a credit card policy, have the attorney review it and bring it back to the June meeting for approval.

C. Deputy Clerk's position:

Clerk Bloem submitted a legal opinion from the Village Attorney regarding Mary and Cheryl sharing the deputy clerks' position and the Human Resource Committee requiring the job to be posted when one leaves and the other takes over. Mr. Sweeting stated "After review of the personnel policies manual and the minutes of the motion originally appointing them from 2010, I am of the opinion that you do not need to go thru the new hire procedures each year."

D. Update on Rangers:

Clerk Bloem stated that as soon as she gets the results of the applicant's drug test and physical, she will contact Rusty and Jared so they can interview and get the rangers started.

E. Meeting in Person:

Motion by Trustee D. Houtteman second from Trustee S. Swanson to hold the June 28, 2021 meeting in person as long as we follow all State guidelines regarding COVID-19. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: None. **Motion Carried.**

F. Other:

Trustee S. Swanson stated that at the last meeting the Council did not vote on the Construction Board of Appeals.

Motion by Trustee S. Swanson, second from Trustee R. Morningstar to approve and appoint the following people to the Construction Board of Appeals Board. Mike Berry, Chris Hall, Penny McGuire, and Alternate Conrad Swanson Sr.  
Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: None. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Community Watch Program:

Discussion was held on whether the Village should have an official page for the Community Watch Program and the Village Voice. There are questions on who will run the page and if there are any legal guidelines we need to follow. The city of Whitehall and Montague have a community page that the Council can get on to look at and see how it is setup. This will be on the June agenda for further discussion.

B. Taking Village Voice to social media:

If the Village page is created Trustee J. Semelbauer would like it linked to the Village website.

C. Dead trees along the lake:

Trustee R. Morningstar will check with the DNR to see if there are any guidelines we need to follow,

D. Reward for convictions of crimes in park

President Pro tem M. Spencer stated that the prior Council already voted on a reward, we just need to get it out in the community that there is a reward for arrest and conviction for anyone doing vandalism in the Village.

E. Other

Pictures for meeting room:

Motion by Trustee D. Houtteman, second from Trustee J. Semelbauer to approve the purchase of 5 canvas pictures for the Village Hall not to exceed five hundred (500) dollars. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, **Motion Carried.**

Chickens in Village:

Trustee R. Morningstar would like the Council to review the domestic animal ordinance and maybe look at allowing chickens in the Village. He would like the Council to contact other municipalities that allow chickens to get their input and see how their ordinance is written.

New Phones for office:

Motion by R. Morningstar, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to approve the expenditure to buy new phones for the Village office. Roll call: Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, President Pro tem M. Spencer-**Aye**. Ayes: 6, Nays: 0, **Motion Carried.**

**Park equipment:**

Trustee Swanson would like the Village to look into a grant for new ADA park equipment.

Trustee Houtteman stated that there is a lot of trash around the lake that needs to be picked up, she is hoping a group of volunteers can get together and clean around the lake.

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

The Village Council would like to thank all the Village residents that did road cleanup.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mark Verhoeven. 6695 Kedzie, Mark stated that he would like to see doggie bag stations put in the park by the signs that stated cleanup after your pet. Mark stated that it was posted on the Village of Lakewood Club Community page on how Village residents can come together and get to know each other. The following are some suggestions the residents came up with. A community firepit in the park with seating around it, a parade with old/cool cars, trucks that goes through the Village, bring Fox Festival back, movie night in the park and sprinklers the kids can run through.

Laura Sikkenga- 739 Hawthorne, Laura stated that she served 8 years on the Whitehall School board and they were considered employee, they are elected and given a stipend. She does not believe the MIOSHA rules applies to the Village Council and their meetings.

Bob Sikkenga- 739 W. Hawthorne is very disappointed that our President who has been elected to run this meeting is not here. Bob stated that he looks forward to what the Council is doing and if the Council keeps on this path, they will do a great job. Bob commented Dalton Township having chickens, why can't the Village? Bob stated that Dalton is 50% agricultural and the Village of Lakewood Club is 0% agricultural.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee S. Swanson, second from Trustee J. Semelbauer to adjourn the May 24, 2021 regular meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Bloem, Clerk