

**Village of Lakewood Club**  
**Meeting Minutes for**  
**December 18, 2023**  
[www.villageoflakewoodclub.org](http://www.villageoflakewoodclub.org)

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by President R. Sikkenga at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: President Robert Sikkenga, Trustees Debbie Houtteman, Mark Spencer, Tammy Verhoeven, Sarah Swanson, Rusty Morningstar, Jared Semelbauer, Clerk Susan West, and Treasurer Hannah Swanson. Absent: Street Administrator Larry Gray.

ACCEPT OR AMEND AGENDA:

Motion by Trustee D. Houtteman, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to approve the December 18, 2023 meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Trustee D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye** and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Kevin McCabe, 69 W. Linden, stated that there are some serious flaws in the garbage collection ordinance, if you recall he was in here a while back and that he made mention about him being a senior and that he does not use the garbage service as much as other residents. He stated that there was mention in another meeting about some residents piling their garbage up with bags outside of their can but that he does not have that, he only uses it once a month and that his is not even topped. He stated that under the ruling for the use tax he is allowed to limit his use so he is asking to limit his use to only once a month, instead of the hundred and fifty-three dollars and sixty cents, that would equal thirty-eight dollars and forty cents. He stated that he is asking the council to recognize that law, that it is a Supreme Court Ruling by the way, Michigan Supreme Court that is. He stated he is allowed to limit that use of that because you're allowing other people to pile it up and that the Ordinance Enforcer is not taking any notice of that. He stated that he would like the council to recognize his use to being limited and that you may want to take note of that with many Seniors in the community that maybe only have one or two people in a household not like a houseful of school kids or whatever, he sees them piled over and three or four bags around the perimeter weekly. He only uses it once a month and it's not even topped so he asked the council to recognize and that they would be much more excited about the next public comment.

WORK SESSION MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee R. Morningstar, second from Trustee J. Semelbauer to approve the Work Session Minutes for November 27, 2023 as submitted by Clerk West. Roll call vote: Trustee M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion by Trustee M. Spencer, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for November 27, 2023 as submitted by Clerk West. Roll call vote: Trustee T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk S. West informed the council that she received an email for the Village Council. Clerk S. West read the email that was from Mr. McCabe, a Senior Citizen, stating his disbelief and disapproval of the council's use of the Senior Millage Funds.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Trustee M. Spencer asked if they were getting a monthly report on how the CDs are doing and if that could be added to the report.

Motion by Trustee R. Morningstar, second from Trustee J. Semelbauer to place the December 2023 Treasurers report on file as submitted by Treasurer H. Swanson. Roll call vote Trustee S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

FINANCE REPORT:

Motion by Trustee J. Semelbauer, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to accept the finance report and pay the bills for the month of December 2023. Roll call vote: Trustee R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Committee:

Trustee T. Verhoeven stated that they did not meet this month but that the tree lighting ceremony was small but nice.

Lake:

None

Liquor Inspections:

Clerk S. West informed the council that two (2) were made.

Ordinance Enforcer:

Ordinance Enforcer Greg Balcom informed the council that he issued three more citations today.

Building Inspections and Permits:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that the Building Inspections and Permits are on file for review.

**Park:**

President R. Sikkenga stated that they were still working on picking up leaves.

**Streets and Maintenance:**

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that the three (3) roads were done.

**Planning Commission:**

Planning Commission liaison J. Semelbauer informed the council that there was meeting minutes from the last meeting in their packets. He also informed the council that they are reviewing the maps from GIS to make sure they are correct.

**Human Resource Committee:**

Human Resource Chairman T. Verhoeven informed the council that there was no meeting during the last month.

**Lots:**

None

**Set Calendar:**

The Community Committee will hold a meeting on January 6, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. The Human Resource Committee will hold a meeting on January 9, 2023 at 6:00p.m. The Planning Commission will hold a meeting on January 17, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. The Village Work Session Meeting will be held on Monday January 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and the Village Regular Meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m.  
THE OFFICE WIL BE CLOSED December 25, 2023 through January 1, 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Garbage Service:**

President R. Sikkenga stated that Clerk S. West and himself still need to reach out to SWS.

**B. Senior Millage:**

Clerk S. West informed the council that this years Senior Millage will need to be decided before September of 2024.

**C. New Well at DPW:**

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that the well should be started in January 2024.

**D. Tornado Siren:**

President R. Sikkenga stated that Elizabeth Lemoine had asked if the siren could be used to start off the July fourth parade. He informed the council that they are going to try to get the Siren up and running again and that it needs to be tested but that they need to publish this in the spring newsletter before they can test it.

**E. Rules of Procedure for Meetings:**

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that the Rules of Procedure for Public Comment is now on the back of the Agenda. Clerk S. West informed the council that they all have a copy of the adopted Rules of Procedure in their packets.

**F. Ordinance Codification:**

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that it is still being investigated for the costs.

G. Other:  
None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Advertise for DPW Position:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that there needed to be a motion if they agreed with publishing this in the Muskegon Chronicle.

Motion by Trustee M. Spencer, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to spend the money to advertise for a DPW position. Roll call vote: Trustee J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

B. Joint Annual Meeting:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that they will need to set a date that works for everyone, possibly at next month's meeting.

C. Meeting Dates for 2024:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that they all have a list in their packets.

Motion by Trustee J. Semelbauer, second from Trustee M. Spencer to accept the Village meeting dates for the year of 2024. Roll call vote: Trustee D. Houtteman-**Aye**, M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

D. Variance, Land Division, Zoning Changes Fee Schedule:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that the Village currently does not charge a fee for these and that the Village is spending this money for such fees.

Motion by Trustee R. Morningstar, second from Trustee J. Semelbauer to adopt the Variance, Land Division, and Zoning Changes fee schedule from Dalton Township as Lakewood Clubs Fee Schedule. Roll call vote: Trustee M. Spencer-**Aye**, T. Verhoeven-**Aye**, S. Swanson-**Aye**, R. Morningstar-**Aye**, J. Semelbauer-**Aye**, D. Houtteman-**Aye**, and President R. Sikkenga-**Aye**. Ayes: 7, Nays: 0. **Motion Carried.**

E. Insurance Claim for window on Caterpillar:

President R. Sikkenga informed the council that a claim was filed with the insurance to see if they would reimburse for the cost of the window.

F. Other:  
None

GOOD AND WELFARE:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Kevin McCabe, 69 W. Linden, stated that it amazes him that you people all vote, that he looks at the history and you all vote Aye all the time, that you can't get two people in the street to agree but you all agree every time and it amazes him. He stated that he doesn't know if any of you realize how the Village of Lakewood Club came into existence and he's not sure if you're aware how the Village of Lakewood Club could be disincorporated. He stated that this is what his plan is to do and that this is his New Years Resolution. He is hoping that Dalton Township converts this place into a senior center because they will be the ones taking over this area so that's his resolution for the New Year. He stated that there are a lot of new people that are newcomers that moved into this area and they don't care for you people at all, that they don't like paying those extra taxes and be burdened with that, they are burdened enough so that is his New years Resolution and believe him, you can talk to your rookie corporate council that you can be abolished, you can be wiped off the map, no more Lakewood signs, no more nothing. All that money would go to Dalton Township.

Adjourn: Motion by Trustee S. Swanson, second from Trustee T. Verhoeven to adjourn the December 18, 2023 regular meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan West, Clerk