

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
September 18, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Village Council held at 442 N. Grand Street, was called to order by President Keith Gunnett at 7:00 p.m.

The Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America were led by President Gunnett.

ROLL CALL:

Present: President Gunnett, Trustees Rochholz, Mastenbrook, Bergland, Barnes, Carlin and Beck.
Absent: None.
Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Finance Director Kristina Lafferty, Chief Scott Smith, Bert Gale, Nick Keck, Linda Barnes, Rodney Borger, Sabrina Stamper, David Stamper, Steve Waldron, Brian Julian, and Jennifer Sportel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Rochholz, seconded by Barnes, to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Rochholz, to approve the Consent Agenda with a change to a typographical error.
All aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The owner of 203 Pine St. appeared before the Council to ask for an extension on the deadline to work on his house. (This house has been declared a dangerous building by the Dangerous Building Officer.)

President Keith Gunnett made the following statements:

- He stated Habitat for Humanity has been contacted and an application has been filled out to ask for assistance for the resident at 203 Pine St.
- He stated a two-week extension would allow Habitat for Humanity to have enough time to review the application and determine whether they can assist in making the residence livable.

Mr. Bert Gale, from Associated Government Services, made the following statements:

- He stated the resident at 203 Pine St. did not meet the deadline for completion of work needed to be done to bring the house into compliance. This deadline was submitted to him by the Dangerous Building Officer.
- He stated if an extension is granted, timing is of the essence.
- He stated it is not fair to citizens, particularly neighbors, to have this issue continue for a lengthy period of time.
- He stated improvement has been made. However, he is still not in compliance.
- He stated drawings were not provided, and the permits submitted were not what he would normally accept.

It was decided that when a representative from Habitat for Humanity goes through the house at 203 Pine Street, Bert Gale from Associated Government Services, President Keith Gunnett, Trustee Michael Rochholz, and Chief Scott Smith will accompany them.

Motion by Rochholz, seconded by Barnes to postpone the hearing for the owner of 203 Pine Street to the next Council Meeting, held October 2, 2023. All aye.

- b) Discussion took place regarding an update on the former Schnauzers building, located at 201 N. Grand St.

Mr. Bert Gale from Associated Government Services made the following statement:

- He stated work has started on the building.

Trustee Mike Rochholz made the following statement:

- He stated he would like to see the building secured before winter weather sets in.

- c) The Memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding Resolution 2023-11. A Resolution Adopting the 2022 Kalamazoo County Hazardous Waste Program was discussed.

Motion by Rochholz, seconded by Mastenbrook to adopt 2023-11 as presented. All aye.

The Council asked Village Manager Lutz to research examples of Cost Recovery Ordinances and present them at the next Council meeting on October 2, 2023.

- d) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding re-appointment of Village Clerk/Treasurer was discussed.

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Beck to re-appoint Village Clerk/Treasurer to a six-year term. All aye.

Village Manager Lutz stated she will look into rewording the Ordinance, so re-appointment will not be necessary in the future.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

STATEMENTS FROM CITIZENS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Village Manager Cheri Lutz made the following statements:

- She stated the Village of Schoolcraft was not approved for the \$9 million Drinking Water Revolving Fund grant.
- She stated the application for the DWRP grant is based on a point system and the Village of Schoolcraft received 70 points. The DWRP grant was awarded to municipalities who have 85 points or more.
- She stated Mike Presta from Prein and Newhof is in the process of reapplying for the grant.

Chief Scott Smith made the following statement:

- He stated he had a discussion with the owner of 203 Pine Street and asked him to make a goodwill effort in cleaning up the property.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Jennifer Sportel, teacher at Schoolcraft Community Schools, informed the Council of plans for the building that used to be Schoolcraft Middle School on Clay St.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Keith F. Gunnett, Village President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk