

**VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
January 2, 2024**

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, Beck, Bergland, Barnes, and Carlin.
Absent: None.
Also Present: Village Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Linda Barnes, Steve Waldron, Jill Strake, Shannon Bruner, and Jan McNally.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Bergland, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All aye.

CITIZEN'S ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding Request for Funding from the Eagles Nest was discussed.
Ms. Jill Strake and Ms. Jan McNally provided updates on the Eagles Nest and the Food Pantry.

Motion by Carlin, seconded by Barnes to approve funding to the Eagles Nest for utilities for the year 2024 in the amount of \$2,040. All aye.

- b) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding the Hazardous Household Waste Contract for 2024 was discussed.

Motion by Beck, seconded Bergland to approve the amount of \$1,400 for the annual contract for the Hazardous Household Waste Program. All aye.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

STATEMENTS FROM CITIZENS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Village Manager Cheri Lutz made the following statements:

- She stated a Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
- She stated there will not be a Planning Commission meeting this month. However, there will be a meeting held either in February or March to review a Site Plan for Mercury Broadband.
- She stated she is communicating with the Village attorney, Bert Gale from Associated Government Services, and EGLE to ensure the proper procedure is followed for demolition of 203 Pine Street.
- She stated she has a sample Cost Recovery Ordinance from Texas Township. She will check with other municipalities to find out if they have one and if so get a copy.
- She stated Finance Director Kristina Lafferty has turned in her resignation. Her last day is January 12, 2024
- She stated a special meeting of the Village Council is scheduled for January 29, 2024 to review the Draft Budget.
- She stated the Final Budget will be presented to the Council at the February 19, 2024 meeting.

Trustee Todd Carlin made the following statements:

- He stated the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority Board does not want to schedule a meeting with the Village Council to discuss their procedure to establish their budget.
- He stated the SKCFA invited members of the Council to attend their meetings to discuss their budget.

Trustee Rochholz made the following statement:

- He questioned if members of the Village of Schoolcraft attended a meeting, would SKCFA go through the entire budget.

Trustee Mastenbrook made the following statements:

- She stated that she does not understand why there is continued resistance by the SKCFA Board to comply with the Standard Accounting Principles to establish a budget.
- She stated she is questioning the Village of Schoolcraft's contract with an organization that will not follow the Standard Accounting Principles.

Trustee Rochholz made the following statements:

- He stated President Keith Gunnett is resigning after this meeting.
- He read aloud an acknowledgement of President's achievements, time and effort he put forth in the position of President of the Village Council during the last ten years. The entire Council thanked President Gunnett.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Keith F. Gunnett, Village President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk