

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

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

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

ROLL CALL:

Present: President Rochholz, Trustees Mastenbrook, Beck, Bergland, Carlin, Doorn and Rance.
Absent: None.
Also Present: Villager Manager Cheri Lutz, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Sergeant Jamie Edwards, Steve Waldron, Kathy Rance, Kim Parker and Toni Rafferty.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Bergland, seconded by Beck, 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:

Ms. Toni Rafferty provided a brief update on the Fourth of July, 2025 activities.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) The memorandum from President Mike Rochholz regarding Disbursement of December Stipend to Village employees was discussed.

Motion by Carlin, seconded Mastenbrook to approve the December 2024 Stipends. By Roll Call, All Aye.

- b) The memorandum from Village Manager Cheri Lutz regarding 2024 Council President and Trustees was discussed.

Motion by Beck, seconded by Bergland to approve the 2024 Council Compensation. By Roll Call, All Aye.

- c) The memorandum from Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary regarding the 2025 Annual Spring Clean Bid was discussed.

Motion by Mastenbrook, seconded by Doorn to approve the bid from Best Way Disposal with an estimated cost of \$2,805.00. By Roll Call, All aye.

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- d) The 2025 Council meeting schedule was discussed.

Motion by Bergland, seconded by Carlin to approve the 2025 Council meeting schedule as presented.
All aye.

TABULATION OF BIDS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

STATEMENTS FROM CITIZENS AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

Village Manager Lutz made the following statements:

- She commended the Village Staff on their work during her 3-month absence.
- She stated she would like to schedule a Finance Committee meeting on December 16, 2024 to be held prior to the Council meeting that day. Members of the Finance Committee are President Mike Rochholz, Trustees Kathy Mastenbrook and Joe Beck, Village Manager Cheri Lutz,, Village Clerk Theresa O'Leary, Chief Scott Smith, and DPW Superintendent Rob Coffman.
- She stated she is going to attend the Kalamazoo County Commission Meeting tomorrow evening. She has been informed there are ARPA monies available. Village Manager Lutz will compose and take a letter requesting ARPA funding to the Commission meeting.

Village Trustee Kathy Mastenbrook made the following statements regarding the November 20, 2024 meeting of the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority (SKCFA) she attended:

- She stated Denny Olson said he attended the Kalamazoo County Road Commission meeting and the grant for the roundabout at TU Ave. and U Ave. was not approved. They plan to resubmit their request.
- She stated Kalamazoo County Commissioner John Gisler provided an update on activities of Kalamazoo County.
- She stated a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2024 to discuss roof repair bids.
- She stated discussion took place regarding the non-approval of the audit. Board members are not in agreement on how to move forward.
- She stated Officer positions and Committee Assignments will take place at the Annual organization meeting in December, in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation.
- She stated the 2025 meeting schedule for SKCFA was approved.
- She stated raises for the fire fighters were approved, effective January 1, 2025.
- She stated the Board approved the 2025/2026 Proposed Budget Resolution. However, there were questions regarding allocations for new equipment purchases. Trustee Mastenbrook will present the Council with the adjustments once they have been accounted for.
- She stated Chief McMillan stated the First Due Program is schedule to be up and running by December 12, 2024.
- She stated Chief McMillan informed the Board the Ashley Area Fire Authority donated a breathing air compressor to SKCFA. The unit has less than 200 hours use and will allow SKCFA to fill bottles versus transporting to Portage to be refilled.
- She stated Mike Tomlinson indicated that based on increased costs, the apparatus/equipment replacement schedule needs modification.
- She stated Human Resources has received two applications.
- She stated Don Ulsh announced that beginning in December, Trustee Jenny Sportel will be replacing him as the representative for Schoolcraft Township at the SKCFA meetings.

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Trustee Mastenbrook also stated SKCFA is now a part of Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate Ambulance Agreement.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Michael J. Rochholz, Village President

Theresa O'Leary, Village Clerk