

Richland Village Council
8985 Gull Road
Regular Meeting
July 11, 2016
Regular Meeting

Approved as amended based on revisions from Trustee Koporetz's notes. JWH

Present: President Dave Greve, President Pro Tem Gail Koporetz, Treasurer Terry Edds, Clerk Jacqueline W. Holewa, Trustees Kim Lewis, Robert Prentice, John Smith

Others present:

Absent: Virginia Gross, Kevin Foust

The meeting was called to order in the Richland Community Hall by President Greve at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of allegiance was led by President Greve

President Greve reviewed the rules for public participation at meetings.

Guests:

Rich Pierson, GLSWA, commented that at the June meeting the village auditor, Jeff Rood, stated that the Water Fund was not a restricted fund and monies could be used for other budgetary needs. He questioned Rood's comment and asked if he could meet with the president and the village attorney to discuss the matter. He added that GLSWA would pay the cost of the attorney.

Col. Frank Brooks, candidate for 6th District Kalamazoo County Commissioner, spoke about his background leading him to run for public office.

Public Comments:

Karen Thompson, D Avenue resident, informed the council that the drains in the village were in need of cleaning. She mentioned that her husband, Jim Thompson, had brought this matter to the council's attention in past meetings. Ms. Thompson offered pictures that she had taken while on walks around the village. *President Greve said that DPW would take care of it right away.*

Sue Miller, N. 32nd Street resident, ~~remarked~~ **criticized** on Trustee Koporetz's response to social media comments at the June meeting. Ms. Miller didn't think that it was appropriate for a Trustee to comment on the opinions expressed on social media at a council meeting. She said that Koporetz should take responsibility for **what Ms. Miller believes are** her illegal actions. Miller ~~found~~ **felt** that the most egregious comment that Koporetz had made in her statement was comparing Richland Village to Ferguson, Missouri, Champaign, Illinois, and New Orleans. Miller stated that she would also like to respond to a letter posted on social media as well, one that Koporetz had cheered as well written. **Ms. Miller claimed that she had sent this letter to the Psych department at Western, and they found it to be written by a budding serial killer.** She ~~referred~~ **accused** to Koporetz as **of being** incompetent and a liar, the letter she referenced will

be sent to the FBI. **Ms. Miller accused Tom Koporetz of being the person that started the rumor about the police giving out McDonald's gift certificates, and alleged that she had proof on tape.** Ms. Miller asked each of the council members if they knew what a Writ of Mandamus is. She ended by **exclaiming repeatedly that** ~~is~~ Koporetz a racist, **and was under investigation by the NAACP.**

Virginia Mejeur, N. 32nd Street resident, asked about Kevin Foust, but before she could finish her statement, *President Greve informed her that Kevin Foust had resigned his position as Trustee.* She did not comment further.

Minutes:

Motion to approve June 13, 2016, regular meeting minutes as amended Koporetz/Lewis CARRIED

Correct Greve's statement by adding the following verbiage: **Edds explained that there was not any inappropriate transactions with the bank account.** Old Business: Correct spelling coast to **cost.** Delete **will need** from the treasurer's report. Old Business: Add - **clerk to notify AGS and MTSSW of the council's decision.**

President Greve tabled any discussion regarding the treasurer's request to delete #9 from the attached letter on the June 13 minutes until the attorney could review it. Also, per the attorney: the council has the right to amend minutes.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Edds presented the financial reports. He stated that the village would have been \$9,000 in the negative but for transferring money from the Sale of the Village Office Fund to the General Fund. Edds commented that he was not aware that the Water Fund was not a restricted fund until auditor Rood mentioned it at the June meeting.

Accounts Payable:

Motion to pay accounts payable as submitted. Koporetz/Lewis CARRIED

Motion to pay July accounts payable as submitted. Lewis/Koporetz CARRIED

Old Business:

Lewis reported that quotes for flags would go to the group of donors, but she didn't get them before July 4 and the group of donors are no longer around.

Trustee Smith presented the Official Recommendation from the Planning Commission regarding the Special Land Use application from Provision Living LLC to allow a care home to be constructed on a C-1 parcel.

The clerk reported that Provisional Living had contacted her and was withdrawing their application. They stated that the real estate contract had expired and the restrictions that the PC required made the project impracticable. Clerk to email the Planning Commission of the withdrawal.

New Business:

Recent email from Treasurer Edds regarding the CVTRS revenue sharing. Koporetz inquired as to why Richland Village did not qualify for the payment and **all the** other villages **in the county** qualified. Edds stated that there was a \$4,500 threshold that had to be met. Koporetz asked about the statutory payment; Edds did not know. He doesn't know the specific requirements and suggested that Koporetz contact the accountants. Lewis to contact the CVTRS website for information.

Kevin Foust's resignation letter was accepted by the council. Prentice/Lewis CARRIED

Discussion whether to appoint someone to the position next month or wait for the general election in November. Motion to not fill the vacancy now and let the election process take care of the vacancy. Lewis/Koporetz Carried. The clerk clarified that there would now be six (6) positions on the November ballot.

Lewis informed the council of the Missile Defense meeting. Once a site is selected it will go to Congress for a vote. She asked if she could invite Lt. Mark Gorzynski to attend a future council meeting. Motion to invite Lt. Mark Gorzynski to the August meeting. Lewis/Smith CARRIED

Trustee Lewis read a letter submitted by Rob Brinkerhoff commending Gull Lake Landscaping for their contribution of time, knowledge and discounted price for trees.

Committee Reports:

Police: Incidents-115; Citations-91; Verbals-66. The July 4 parade went well.

The clerk questioned Judd Sikkema's timesheet – he had logged in hours for Galesburg Days. Clerk Holewa asked if the village had a contract with Galesburg to provide police security, that she was not aware of any contract with Galesburg. She reminded the council that village taxpayer monies could not be used for the benefit of others outside of the village. Trustee Prentice said that he thought that Galesburg police and Richland police traded services in the past but would check with the chief.

Fire Department: 38 calls – 3 in village

Streets: **President Greve met with the County Road Commission, who advised the village to** Will delay chip seal of DE Avenue it needs an overlay. Wait until next year for N. 32nd Street. A schedule will be set up for street repairs. Greve will contact Richland Township Supervisor regarding road maintenance of DE and 34th Street for snow plowing for Gull Lake Schools traffic. He will review costs of the maintenance with the township.

Trees & Parks: Lewis reported that there was a dead tree that needed to be removed. She has scheduled a quote for late July.

Buildings/Community Hall: Review Hall rental policy – clerk reported that the new policy is working well. **President Grve asked Trustee Lewis if it was acceptable to rent the police offices left vacant in the Hall to a non-profit. Lewis to follow-up with the BOC.**

Zoning/Ordinance: Smith said that he presented the Land Division Ordinance review request to the PC. An R-3 public hearing was held on June 23, 2016 and was tabled until September. The applicant will review other options suggested by the PC consultant.

P.P.P: no report

Public Service: no report

Ad Hoc: no report

Administration: no report

Budget: no report

Public Comments:

Doug Penny, N. 32nd Street resident, had 3 points he wanted to discuss. 1) The flags are tattered and the village needs to replace them. 2) He wondered why the insurance cost wasn't separated out into individual department budgets. 3) He was embarrassed by the PC decision regarding the care home and thought that it had died in committee. It is a needed service and many in the village could benefit from it. *Trustee Smith responded that it was the Planning Commission's responsibility to protect the character of the village. He also stated the Planning Commission is not anti-business.*

Rob Brinkerhoff, D Avenue resident, thanked the PC for taking a stand. The building was inappropriate for a C-1 parcel.

Col Frank Brooks commented on the Missile sites stating that the Battle Creek location is at the top of the list of contenders. If citizens would like to comment he suggested going to the website. The Governor and Congressmen support the site. If chosen it would be 3-5 years to completion.

Council Comments and Reminders: August 2 is the primary. Treasurer Edds said that the last day to collect taxes is on July 31 a Sunday, and that he would accept tax payments from walk-ins on Monday, August 1, as paid on time. Clerk to post a notice on the village website.

Motion to adjourn at 8:43 pm Lewis/Koporetz - CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacqueline W. Holewa
Village of Richland Clerk