

**Richland Village Council**  
**8985 Gull Road**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 8, 2017, 7:00 pm**

*Approved as submitted- AMR*

**Present:** President Dave Greve, President Pro Tempore Gail Koporetz and Trustees: Cindy Berg, Bob Prentice, John Smith, Randy Walbridge, Treasurer Mike Scott, Clerk Angie Rodino.

**Absent:** None

**The meeting was called to order in the Richland Community Hall by President Dave Greve at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of allegiance was led by President Greve.**

**Guests:** None

**Citizen Comments:** Virginia Mejour, 7890 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> St., expressed her concern that the Village newsletter was flimsy and not “glossy and pretty” as in the past. She has heard a lot of comments on this issue. She hopes that in the future it will be “pretty”.

Tatty Hodge, 7567 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> St., stated that she is disappointed with the budget that was passed and feels it is one that was never going to be able to stick to. She stated the Village is going to go bankrupt if it keeps moving money from “one bucket to another.” She also questioned why the council would wonder why someone that was for “Reclaim Richland” would want to be on the council, as she feels the council is now trying to do the things that “Reclaim Richland” was trying to do such as questioning double taxation, paying for fire and the library twice, garbage pickup for township and the village. Ms. Hodge also stated that having 4 full time police officers is a lot. She was present at an accident across from the police department where the police officer in the building had to be called to respond. She does not feel the Richland Police Department is doing an exceptional job.

Ed Schaadt, 7669 Richland Woods Ct., reported he had good news that Rotary has just completed the Richland Flag project. He stated it was overwhelmingly successful. New brackets will start being installed and flags will start going up on May 25. The left over money will be put into a residual account for flag replacements as needed. Starting with 101 flags. One flag pole will be installed at the Community hall sponsored by Rotary and one flag pole in memory of Sgt. Collin Rose will be placed at the Richland Police Department. Collin Rose memorial is funding this flag pole. President Greve thanked Rotary for all of their efforts on this project.

**A motion** was made to amend the agenda to select new council member before any other business in order to have that person appointed and sit at this meeting – **Prentice/Koporetz - Carried**

**Village Council Candidates:**

Trustee Walbridge read letters of intent from both candidates which were received by Clerk Rodino. President Greve opened the floor up for questions. President Pro Tem Koporetz asked what each of the candidates would like to do as a member of the council.

Jake Scott stated that he loves living in Richland, he grew up in Richland and would like to get his hands involved in the help of the planning and budgeting of the Village. He feels his experience in project management, planning, and budgeting would be beneficial in helping the Village continue in the direction he feels the Village is going. He would like to be more involved in steering the Village in a way that he sees fit. President Greve asked if Mr. Scott would be able to help with financial understanding of Peachtree and accounting. J. Scott responded that he could do this. Mr. Scott answered other questions pertaining to his work history and experience. He stated that he would love the opportunity to work with the community.

Virginia Mejour responded that she wanted to try to help make everything more transparent. She feels like Jake Scott is a wonderful candidate and withdrew her consideration for the board. She stated that she feels Mr. Scott will be a tremendous asset to the board and the community. She does hope that discussion and approval will take place before purchases. She believes the Board has improved 99% since November's election, it is more open for comments. President Greve thanked Mrs. Mejour for her comments and recommendation for Jake Scott. He thanked her for basically "turning a leaf."

President Greve also stated that he feels the council is transparent and is trying to stay on budget. Sometimes things come up and cannot wait for board approval. He also stated that money is moved at some times but the village is not going bankrupt.

President Greve stated he would like to appoint Jake Scott to fill the vacant position on Village Council.

**Motion to approve the appointment. Koporetz/Smith – Roll Call Vote: Yes – Berg, Koporetz, Prentice, Smith, Walbridge, Greve. No – none. Motion Carried**

Clerk Rodino administered the Oath of Office to Jake Scott and he took his seat on the board.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve April 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes – **Prentice/Koporetz – Carried** No discussion, approved as submitted

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer M. Scott discussed the budget report. He also explained the report to Trustee J. Scott. Pro Tem Koporetz asked why the transfer for local roads was not showing up on the budget. Treasurer M. Scott explained that it was not a change of the budget so it will not show as an expense until paid. It is not money in the budgeted amounts. President Greve explained that the local streets fund is going to be drained after the work on DE. That money will be replenished over time through Act 51 funds. Trustee J. Scott questioned what the difference between major and local streets was. Trustee Prentice explained the difference.

**Bills Payable:** Bills payable were reviewed. **Motion to approve Bills Payable. Prentice/Koporetz – Carried.**

**Motion** made to pay the invoice for Foy’s Transmission in the amount of \$1,188.57 **Prentice/Berg – Carried**

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- 1. Fire Invoice Discussion:** Pro Tem Koporetz stated that the Fire Agreement has been a discussion for several years before “Reclaim Richland”. Other things have come up that have needed to be taken care of first, but it has been a discussion since Paul Gobble was President. President Greve stated the village fire committee members met with township members on May 4, 2017 and decided more information is needed to come to a determination with the agreement, more research is needed on what is capital expenditures and capital investments. Pro Tem Koporetz stated that village members have asked for a more detailed breakdown of fees charged to the village. Treasurer M. Scott and President Greve explained the fire agreement to Trustee J. Scott. Pro Tem Koporetz stated that until a better breakdown of charges is provided, the Village is not paying the invoice.
- 2. Planning Commission Candidate:** Trustee Walbridge read Candidate Carla Gilbertson’s letter of intent on filling the vacancy on the Planning Commission. There was no further discussion. President Greve appointed Gilbertson to fill PC vacancy. **Motion to approve President Greve’s appointment of Gilbertson to PC – Koporetz/Berg, Roll Call vote: yes – berg, Koporetz, Prentice, J. Scott, Smith, Walbridge, Greve. No – none. Motion Carried** Clerk Rodino to contact PC and Carla Gilbertson with decision.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Police** – Clerk Rodino to contact Police Clerk to have her add previous year’s totals for comparison.
- **Fire Department** – No discussion. President Greve suggested Council members read these reports closely as they come in.
- **Streets** – President Greve stated that road projects are underway. Potholes do need to be filled in as well. Estimate is \$3,600 would like to add an additional \$200 for a total of \$3,800 to make sure it is covered. This will be paid out of Local Streets fund. **Motion to accept estimate of \$3,800 to fill potholes – Prentice/Koporetz – Carried.**
- **Buildings and Trees** – Trustee Berg informed council Jackie Light will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> member on the BOC. She also questioned the amount available to spend on a communication sign in front of the Community Hall. Treasurer M. Scott informed Council there is not a budgeted amount for this but anything less than \$1000 should be fine. Trustee Berg estimates @\$250 to buy materials and have it done. The BOC will discuss this further. Arbor Day tree planting

will take place on Thursday, May 18 at 12:30 pm at Richland Elementary School. Plant the Pots will take place on Saturday, May 20 at 9:00 am.

- **Administrative** – Nothing specific. Would like to welcome Trustee J. Scott to the council.
- **Zoning/Ordinance** – Trustee Smith stated that he and Trustee Prentice are looking over the ordinances and will be bringing some updates and changes to council in June or July.
- **PPP** – Nothing at this time
- **Public Service** – 3 residents have requested to be on the village email list. Stick pick-up is scheduled for next week and large item pick-up is May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **Budget** – Nothing at this time
- **Publications** – Nothing at this time

**Comments & Reminders by Council Members:** Trustee Prentice would like to point out that door to door sales is against village ordinance as well as garage sale signs not posted on resident's own property. Trustee Smith asked what can be done about the littering of newspapers delivered onto lawns instead of in mailboxes. Clerk Rodino responded that addresses need to be called in to Kalamazoo Gazette. Clerk Rodino stated the audit bill has been received. It is \$9,500. This was approved at February 13 council meeting.

**Motion for Adjournment at 8:36 p.m. – Berg/Walbridge - Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Rodino  
Village of Richland Clerk