

Richland Village Council

8985 Gull Road

October 10, 2016

Regular Meeting

Approved as Amended by Angela Rodino

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

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

Motion to amend agenda by adding Wassailing to New Business Lewis/Prentice -- CARRIED

Public Comments:

Robert Wendzel, Yorktown, stated that a tree near him needed to be removed/trimmed. *Trustee Lewis responded that the tree located at 9493 DE Avenue is a cherry tree and is possibly worth a lot of money. She will contact a tree company to see if they will remove and possibly buy the tree. Kim also said she would contact the Township about the tree across the street.*

Minutes:

Motion to approve September 12, 2016 Regular meeting minutes as amended – Lewis/Prentice – CARRIED. ***Amendments per Trustee Koporetz's notes: Treasurer's report: Insert: Greve stated that he understood the advantage of paying the principle early, but since the payment amount doesn't change each year, the money paid yearly by the D Avenue residents no longer covers their percentage of the payment. Therefore, more money must come out of the Major Streets every consecutive year and since...***

Trustee Koporetz pointed out a discrepancy in the amounts that Edds had presented to pay on the loan vs. the amounts stated in the monthly financial reports. The financial reports showed that the amount available to pay from the D Avenue residents was much closer than what Edds presented. Edds researched the discrepancy, and reported back to the council that the amount in the monthly report was correct: therefore, the amount required from the Major Street fund to pay the bill early was not \$9,084 as proposed, but \$6,752, only \$223 extra.

Trustee Koporetz pointed out the Edds had never taken it upon himself to pay the principle early, but that it had always been a decision of the council.

Motion to approve October 3, 2016 special meeting minutes as amended—Koporetz/Lewis – CARRIED. ***Trustee Smith wanted to insert under public comments: Doug Penny thought that the gravel pit routes are a MDOT's concern not the village concern.***

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Edds presented the financial reports. He gave the council three handouts to further explain the D Avenue loan and the advantages of paying the loan early. The three sheets included an amortization of the loan – from April 2014 to April 2029, loan payoff as of September 14, 2016, and an email from MDOT explaining increase in Act 51 money. Edds told the council that it is their fiduciary duty to keep the best interest of the village in their decisions, and paying the loan early saves thousands of dollars and by continually paying the loan early each year will shave nearly two years off the loan.

Trustee Koporetz had a question regarding the D Avenue loan as it was reported on the Major Street financial report. Treasurer Edds tried to explain to her that the financial report was for budgetary information. Edds went on to explain that the council should be looking at the cash balance report that he furnishes each month. The accounts payable report supplied by the clerk is the actual transaction. Clerk Holewa explained that two separate checks were written one on the Major Street cash fund account (credited) and one on the General cash fund account (credited). The monies were applied (debited) to the expense account in the Major Street fund account.

Accounts Payable:

Motion to pay accounts payable as submitted. Including a bill of \$525.81 to Foy's Transmission & Auto Repair for a police vehicle repair. Koporetz/Lewis—CARRIED.

Old Business:

The Council discussed the draft letter presented by Trustee Koporetz in response to Vince Carahaly's presentation at the previous meeting per the request to the Township for a gravel pit. Trustee Koporetz to make corrections per the discussion, at which time the Council will sign and provide to the Township.

Council members had been sent an email regarding the treasurer's job description taken from the P.P.P. book and the General Village Law handbook. The possible hours and compensation has not been decided, possibly 5-6 hours weekly and \$15 per hour. Administration Committee to handle the details and report back to council with description. Treasurer Edds informed the council that the person appointed **MUST** be bondable. This should be considered when interviewing people for the position

New Business:

Trustee Lewis wanted to discuss Wassailing. Clerk Holewa informed the council that the previous reindeer company was not available on December 1. The clerk got quotes from two different companies \$750 and \$600. President Greve asked if the company would be available on December 8 that he could change the date for Wassailing. His suggestion was met by many protests. Clerk Holewa explained that Wassailing was not a village event that RABA organized the event and it had been held on the first Thursday of December forever and ever. Motion to approve \$600 for reindeer Koporetz/Lewis—CARRIED 3

Motion to spend \$200 on cookies/supplies, Wanda will order \$100 worth of cookies from Harding's Market. President Greve to supply extra cookies if needed. Trustee Koporetz will talk to Brinkerhoffs to see if they have any leftover supplies from the previous year. Lewis/Koporetz -- CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Police: 72 Incidents; 96 Citations; 68 Verbals

Fire Department: 34 calls --2 calls were in the village

Streets: 2 quotes were submitted for tires for the Bobcat. Only two companies in the area carry Bobcat tires. Motion to purchase Bobcat tires from Belleroc Tire for \$689.95 -- Lewis/Koporetz – CARRIED

Greve reported that the Winter Maintenance Agreement between Richland Township and Richland Village has been signed by both parties. The Township will pay \$50 per road pass to the village.

Greve said that leaf pickup will be November 1 – 3 and November 15 – 17, tentative on the leaves falling. Clerk to post the information on the website.

Trees & Parks: report submitted by Lewis for tree planting, the clerk to contact residents regarding planting a tree on village property in front of their house. Lewis and Koporetz did an annual walk around the village to inspect trees for damage. Several trees will need to be removed next year. Gull Lake Landscape will plant trees by November 15 and Lewis will submit the required paperwork to receive the Tree City recognition.

Buildings/Community Hall: Lewis stated that the rental of the hall was doing well but thought that the hall should be marketed more. She also suggested that a marquee would be helpful in advertising events at the hall.

Zoning/Ordinance: P.P.P: no activity was presented to the PC board.

Public Service: no report

Ad Hoc: no report

Administration: October 11 deadline for resumes for the clerk positions. Interviews to be conducted on October 13 & 14. Open to the public.

Budget: included in treasurer's report

Public Comments:

Virginia Mejeur, N. 32nd Street, asked about the dates for the interviews. She was told that they had not changed, are open to the public, and are posted on the website.

John Cox, village resident and police reserve officer, spoke about the public views regarding the police. After six weeks on the job, he wondered why so many residents had negative reactions to the police. He wanted to know what he could do to make things better. He stated that we should learn from the past. Cox noticed a breakdown in communications between the police and residents. He wants people to come to him with questions and for help that is why he wears a badge. *Greve acknowledged that there are problems and that he is aware of it. He asked Cox if he had any solutions. Cox replied: by proactive*

community policing, by breaking down the old feelings. He said that they need to hear criticism that's how we can make it better for everyone.

Robert Wendzel, Yorktown, reported that there is a manhole cover near his home that needs repair. DPW to repair it.

Council Comments/reminders: Gravel Pit meeting at middle school, October 26 at 7 pm.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm – Koporetz/Lewis -- CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacqueline W. Holewa
Village of Richland Clerk