

Richland Village Council
8985 Gull Road
Regular Meeting
April 14, 2014

Present: President Bob Prentice, Clerk Jacqueline Holewa, Treasurer Terry Edds and Trustees: Diane Briggs, Paul Gobble, Rob Brinkerhoff, Gail Koporetz, Virginia Gross, Doug Jonas, Attorney Soltis and Chief Mattioli

Absent: none

The was meeting was called to order in the Richland Community Hall by President Bob Prentice, at 7:00 pm

Pledge of allegiance was led by President Prentice.

Guests:

David Matur, 63rd District House Republican for State Representative, gave a short biography.

Minutes & Bills Payable

1. Motion to approve March 10, 2014 minutes – Brinkerhoff/Gobble
2. Correct # 5 to read General Fund Balance not Cash Flow. **CARRIED as amended**
3. Change Brinkerhoff to chair of Police committee, on the 2014-2015 Committee appointments. Briggs to remain on the Police committee
4. Motion to approve Warrant 0009 as presented. Gobble/Brinkerhoff – **CARRIED**
5. Motion to approve RABA membership fee \$60.00 Brinkerhoff/Gobble – **CARRIED**
6. Motion to approve Piper Mountain payment of \$550.00 for the website – Jonas/Brinkerhoff – **CARRIED**
7. Motion to approve Gull Lake Sewer and Water Authority invoice \$1841.25 for D Avenue packets – Brinkerhoff/Gobble **CARRIED**

Treasurer's report:

8. The Treasurer reported that he had moved a \$75,000.00 CD to the general fund checking account. Special Events and Grant OWI Recovery were added as line items to the budget revenues.

Discussion:

9. Jonas gave a cash flow summary handout to the council members and led a discussion about the General Fund and what steps need to be taken. He pointed out that the village was one month into the budget year and was over budget by 1 ¾ months.

Action Point:

10. Jonas suggested that the council limit all discretionary spending.
11. Only necessary bills to be paid until the imbalance is corrected.

Old Business:

Discussion:

12. Police Department Health Insurance was discussed. The council's intent was unclear when it approved the police health insurance policy in January.

Action point:

13. Motion to ratify the present Blue Cross Blue Shield coverage plan – Simply Blue HSA. PPO Gold (\$1300) for eligible police officers for the reason that the Insurance agency inadvertently described the plan as “Silver” rather than “Gold” which was approved by the Village council at its meeting of January 9, 2014 in mistake where the Village council intended to approve the “Gold” policy. – Gobble/Brinkerhoff – **CARRIED**

Discussion:

14. Council discussed the police officers' contribution to their premium. In the past year the police officers contributed to their premium payment each pay period. The question is should they continue to contribute?

Action Point:

15. Motion for police officers to continue contributing the same amount of their premium co-pay – Koporetz/Brinkerhoff – Roll Call vote: Koporetz- no; Brinkerhoff – no; Gobble – no; Gross – no; Briggs – no; Jonas – no; Prentice – no. **DEFEATED**
16. Motion to no longer require employees to contribute to insurance premium and to reimburse employees for their co-payment on premiums March 5, March 19, and April 2, 2014 –Roll Call vote: Koporetz- yes; Brinkerhoff – yes; Gobble – yes; Gross – yes; Briggs – yes; Jonas – yes; Prentice – yes - **CARRIED**

Discussion:

17. D Avenue update: Construction to begin April 15, 2014. Jonas reported that the final draft of the Reconstruction Project was complete: 1st year 60% Village – 40% D Avenue residents 2nd year 40% - Village – 40% - D Avenue residents – 20% village road assessment.
18. The D Avenue reconstruction simple interest loan is with Chemical Bank - \$195,000.00 at 2.99% for 15 years.
19. Assessment proposal – 80% fixed/20% variable. \$117.44 per parcel plus .30 per foot of frontage.

Action Point:

20. Motion to authorize Attorney Soltis to prepare a resolution establishing a Road Assessment District for East D Avenue, for consideration by the council at the May 12, 2014 regular meeting. Brinkerhoff/Gross -- **CARRIED**

Discussion:

21. Ordinance to appoint Clerk and Treasurer was discussed.
22. Brinkerhoff presented argument for appoints – necessary because of the special skills needed for the positions.
23. Guests Jim Thompson and Ray Holewa spoke to the council. Thompson urged the council to consciously think about their vote and explain clearly to residents why you are doing this. Holewa stated that he felt that the council was “outsourcing” the positions.

Action Point:

24. Motion to adopt Ordinance 014-2. An Ordinance to amend the Richland Village code of ordinances to define “Richland Village Council”; to provide for the appointment of the Clerk and Treasurer and their respective terms; to repeal any other ordinances in conflict herewith and to provide for and effective date. - Brinkerhoff/Gross – Roll Call vote: Koporetz- no; Brinkerhoff – yes; Gobble – yes; Gross – yes; Briggs – yes; Jonas – yes; Prentice – yes –**CARRIED**
25. Brinkerhoff to write letter to residents regarding the adopted ordinance to appoint clerk and treasurer.

Discussion:

26. The financing of the new 2015 DPW pickup truck was discussed. The truck was ordered and is being built. The sales agreement will not be available until the truck is manufactured.
27. Bob Hammond, with Superior Sweeping, did not agree to contract as revised by Village attorney Soltis.

Action Point:

28. Chief Mattioli to speak to Hammond and work out the details for the agreement.
29. Attorney Soltis to rewrite the contract accordingly.
30. Motion was made: If Hammond accepts the rewritten terms of the contract for 31 hours of service sweeping the Village streets, Chief Mattioli is to release the broom to Superior Sweeping. – Brinkerhoff/Gobble - **CARRIED**

New Business:

Discussion:

31. Chief Mattioli informed the council that the Police Department computers could crash anytime. There is not a backup in place.

32. Attorney Soltis advised that a motion to purchase the computers should include the name of the company, identify the product (hardware/software) and a price.

Action Point:

33. Motion to authorize Chief Mattioli to enter into contract with somebody to purchase some computer equipment for the Police Department not to exceed \$5,000.00. He is not to increase the police budget and is to present council with a plan as to changes in the Police budget to compensate for the \$5,000.00. – Brinkerhoff/Gobble – Roll Call vote: Koporetz- yes; Brinkerhoff – yes; Gobble – yes; Gross – yes; Briggs – yes; Jonas – no; Prentice – yes – **CARRIED**

Discussion:

34. Richland Township reported that one of the waste receptacles in the park had been damaged by the snow plow. Approximate cost to replace \$300.
35. Lack of proof that damage was done by the village snow plow.
36. No action was taken.
37. The old village office building has “Village of Richland” letters on the front of the building and President Prentice asked if the council if they wanted to take the letters down.
38. No action was taken.

Committee Reports:

Police:

39. 86 Incidents- ; 237 citations-; 86 verbals. 78% increase in citations, 18% increase in criminal complaints. 5 Grant OWI Enforcement Events in March, 1 in April.

Discussion:

40. The Police Department has outgrown its space and needs to expand to the basement of the Richland Community Hall. Estimated costs - \$4,000-\$8,000.

Action Point:

41. Brinkerhoff and Chief Mattioli to look into costs of expanding the Police Department to the basement. They are to bring a plan to the May 12, 2014 meeting.
42. Brinkerhoff to speak to the Richland Community Hall Board of Control for permission for the expansion.

Streets:

43. Potholes are very evident – DPW will work on them as weather permits.

Trees:

- 44. Limbs are down from the harsh winter. They are schedule to be picked up April 21.
- 45. The Village is a Tree City again this year.

Administration:

- 46. Brinkerhoff in discussions with personnel and will mediate a meeting with the Administrative Committee, police, clerk and treasurer.

Community Hall/Building & Grounds – no report

Zoning:

- 47. WMU class presenting their class project at the April 24th meeting.

P.P.P.: No report

Public Service:

- 48. Newsletter has been mailed
- 49. DPW will pick up brush on April 21 and May 19

Budget:

- 50. Treasurer is in charge of the village assets and as such stated that the village has paid for 3 Tahoe vehicles in February and only received one he questioned whereabouts of the other 2 vehicles .
- 51. Chief Mattioli answered that one was being prepped the week of April 14 and 3rd one would be available soon.
- 52. Prentice would like the budget committee to meet before the May meeting.

Action point:

- 53. The budget committee to discuss Administrative software.

RABA:

- 54. Joan Split to be Grand Marshall at the Independence Parade.

Website:

- 55. Clerk reported that there had been 164 hits on the website during a 2 week period since the counter has been operational.

Comments:

56. Village/Township Joint meeting cancelled for April 17, 2014.

Motion to adjourn – Gobble/Koporetz – CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Jacqueline Wanda Holewa,

Village of Richland Clerk