

Richland Village Council
8985 Gull Road
Regular Meeting
June 9, 2014

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

Absent: Rob Brinkerhoff

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:

1. Barb Erickson, resident of Richland Village Condos, inquired about when the Richland Village Condo roads would be resurfaced. She reported that there were many potholes in need of being filled. President Prentice replied that council is working on a schedule of road repairs to be made according to the evaluation of village roads made by KATS. Potholes will be filled and no other work will be done to roads this year.
2. Sue Miller, resident on N. 32nd Street, Questioned when was the Kubota was sold, who sold it, and if bids were advertised for the sale. Prentice explained that the chief asked him if he could sell it and Prentice told him OK and didn't explain the ordinance to the chief. The offer was more than the trade in value. She also stated that she thought that the police should not hire out to WMU – the village is not an employment agency. She asked about the need for three full time police officers and two part-time officers in a village of this size. Her researched showed that the average statewide police to population is 1 officer per 1,000 people. Briggs replied that many people in the village would like to have 24 hour coverage.
3. Millard Ross, former village police chief, said that there are rumors regarding the police department getting too strong – he told the council that perception is reality. He suggested that council needs to change the perception of Police Department.
4. Virginia Mejeur criticized the Hall's acoustic problem. Stating that the hearing impaired cannot hear/understand the council proceedings.
5. Tattie Hodge, a N. 32nd Street resident, stated that the people wanted 24 hour police coverage as previously mentioned and yet the police department was leased out to WMU. She wondered about the insurance liability by using village personnel and equipment. Perceived Gestapo environment – police were soliciting residents for support of police department. She thought the above mentioned items to be conflicting arguments.

Minutes & Bills Payable

6. **Motion** to approve May 9 minutes as amended –Gobble/Gross- **CARRIED**
7. **Motion** to strike #13 – Jonas/Briggs – **CARRIED**
8. **Motion** to amend #6 -strike *for increase in policy to cover the 1st Tahoe. Replace with Police auto insurance.* Prentice/Gobble - **CARRIED**
9. **Motion** to approve May 29, 2014 Special Meeting minutes as amended – Gobble/Koporetz
10. **Motion** to amend May 29, 2014 Special Meeting minutes by striking # 3 – *monitor purchases and*, strike #12, #15 strike the quote marks “ ” around intentions - Koporetz/Gross – **CARRIED**
11. **Motion** to approve Warrant 0011 as presented. – Gross/Jonas – **CARRIED**
12. **Motion** to approve list of checks to pay bills on June 10, 2014. – Koporetz/Gobble - – **CARRIED**

Treasurer's report:

13. The Treasurer explained the reports to council. Gobble said that he would like to see the graph used again. Jonas and Edds collaborated on the budget information and presented the information in a graph in a previous meeting. Jonas asked that the treasurer's reports be included in the monthly packets that are delivered to council members on Thursday before the scheduled meeting. Edds explained that this is sometimes impossible because the bank statements do not arrive in time to reconcile the accounts in order to complete the reports. Gobble suggested that the monthly meeting date be scheduled for later in the month to accommodate the treasurer's reports.
14. Treasurer Edds discussed the drug forfeiture bank account and the need to close it per the law, all Village assets are to be in the control of the Treasurer.

Action point:

15. Clerk to check the ordinances and charter to see if the documents prohibit changing the date.
16. **Motion** authorizing Treasurer Edds, President Prentice and Chief Mattioli to close the Drug Forfeiture bank account at Advia Credit Union and deposit the money into a bank account under the control of the Treasurer by the end of the month. Briggs/Gobble - **CARRIED**

Old Business:

Discussion:

17. The May 29, 2014 was discussed. It is unclear as to who requested the meeting. They did not understand why there is a problem this year when the Village had never had any audit problems in past years. The question was brought up whether to continue accounting services with Siegfried Crandall in the future.
18. Many guests stated that the Village should stay with Siegfried Crandall because they are doing their job by showing the council the errors from an accounting perspective.

Action point:

19. Jonas to evaluate Siegfried Crandall and bring back a recommendation.

New Business

Discussion:

20. President Prentice reported on the evaluation of the DPW – to summarize, he thought that the DPW had performed well. It was his observation that the current DPW performed equal to or better than previous DPW staff. It is his recommendation that the current configuration of the DPW (using part-time police officers and the Chief as the supervisor) to be continued.
21. Sue Miller asked if the village had considered outsourcing the DPW. Prentice said it would be considered at the budget discussions.

Action point:

22. **Motion** to continue using the present structure of the DPW department (using the police department to perform the duties). Gross/Briggs -**CARRIED**

Discussion:

23. The Resolution Adopting the Proposal and Submission of Proposed Ordinance 014-2 at the Next General Election was discussed. The council requested that the county clerk submit documentation that the petition was received and the names certified.

Action point:

24. The clerk is to request the documentation from the Kalamazoo County Clerk.

Discussion:

25. The tax software has not been operating correctly for some time. The treasurer needs to send out tax bills soon.

Action point:

26. **Motion** authorizing the treasurer to ask the IT person to find a solution to the problem not to exceed \$500.00. Gobble/Gross - **CARRIED**

Committee Reports:

Police:

27. Incidents- 76; citations-139; verbals-55. 23% decrease in citations, 25% increase in criminal complaints. 3 Grant Seatbelt Enforcement in May – 6 OWI Events coming up in June

Fire: 23 calls – 7 in the Village

Streets: No report

Trees: No report

Administration: No report

Community Hall/Building & Grounds: No report

Zoning: No report

Public Service:

28. Jen Klang, Richland Police Department Office Manager, is not working on the Newsletter any longer. To continue the production of the newsletter the village needs to look for someone to design/format the newsletter.

29. RABA – Would any council member be riding in the Village car in the Independence Day Parade?

Action point:

30. The Newsletter is on hold until a person can be found to work on the design/format of the newsletter.

31. Gail Koporetz will ride in the Village parade.

Motion to adjourn – Gobble/Jonas – **CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Jacqueline Wanda Holewa,

Village of Richland Clerk