



## Village of Spring Lake

### Council Work Session Minutes

July 8, 2019

5:30 p.m.

2 W Savidge Street (Upstairs Conference Room)  
Spring Lake, MI 49456

President **Powers** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### 1. Recognition – North Ottawa Community Hospital

The City of Grand Haven has requested that the Village adopt a Resolution in honor of NOCH's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Council agreed to add the Resolution to the Consent Agenda.

#### 2. Community Engagement Results (Tanglefoot/Mill Point Park Redevelopment)

**Burns** reported that there had been a really good turn out for the Community Engagement and the results indicated that the majority of the attendees were supportive of repurposing Tanglefoot Park, doing more maintenance to green spaces and repairing drainage issues at Mill Point Park, but that would have to wait until the water levels went down. **Burns** said that they have a couple of donors interested in funding portions of the improvements and another possible donor that she expected to be talking to soon. **Burns** said there were multiple grants that were being looked into for these projects and the next step would be getting itemized pricing and prioritize phases. **Council** discussed the options and the order they wanted to proceed in. **Van Strate** said he would like the trailer park to stay as it is. **Duer** thought that keeping the trailer park was limiting the property to a select few and that comments from the community were pretty clear that they wanted something different. **Hanks** and **Petrus** agreed and that by looking at the results of the community engagement, it was clear that the community wanted something else. **TePastle** felt that any study should include costs to the community to maintain any new developments. **Council** agreed to ask the DDA if they were willing to pay a percentage of a cost analysis comparing uses of Tanglefoot as a trailer park versus another use.

#### 3. High Water Levels

Complaints associated with high water levels continue to pour in - no pun

intended. Staff has been documenting public spaces and maintaining communications with Ottawa County Emergency Management Director Nick Bonstell. The DPW Director, Fire Chief and Village Manager have a meeting scheduled with Nick on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. At this time, there isn't much that can be done, other than wait out Mother Nature and hope the levels recede yet this fall. Repairs due to the high-water levels will easily be in the six figures.

**Burns** shared that she had a meeting with Nick Bonstell, but he was not overly optimistic that there would be FEMA money to help pay for damages and unfortunately repairs were not possible until the water levels receded. **Burns** reported that the DEQ would be holding a public hearing at the end of the month regarding lake signage and buoy placement. **Council** discussed property damage due to wakes from boats and having more of a Sheriff's presence on the lake. **Council** also discussed the cost of repairing the water damage and how that would be budgeted for.

#### **4. Mill Point Park Damage**

**Burns** shared photos of the damage done to Mill Point Park by the Heritage Festival Committee. **Delamater** explained that Central Park had been suggested as an alternative venue, but the Heritage Festival Committee declined, so staff asked them to not drive on the grass areas, however, they chose to not abide by that request either. **Council** agreed that the Heritage Festival Committee should pay for the damage just like any other organization or private citizen that had done damage to one of the parks. **Hanks** said that since she had already met with Karla Constantine, she would volunteer to speak to the Heritage Festival Committee and explain why they were being invoiced for the damage. **Burns** said that Angela was working on a "Mass Gathering Ordinance" that would spell out what responsibilities were expected from all parties concerned. This issue was shared with the Parks & Recreation Board and they concurred that all costs associated with repairing the damage should be borne by the SLHF.

#### **5. Steps to Establish a Park**

Council Member Mark Miller inquired as to the process of designating park space within the Village. The Village Charter and Parks & Recreation Master Plan list the designated parks. In order to amend the Charter, it requires a vote of the people. **Burns** shared a flow chart that explained a

process she recommended. **Council** discussed this process which was more complicated than they anticipated. Mark Miller felt he needed to give it a try.

## 6. Economic Development Update

**Burns** explained that in order to make the parking configuration work, spaces would need to encroach on the Cutler Street ROW. This type of encroachment occurs throughout the Village already. **Council** agreed they were in favor of the parking license between the Village and Savidge Six.

## 7. Board & Committee Appointments

- Brandon Brown (DDA)
- Justin Troyer (Historic Conservation Committee)

**Burns** updated Council on the 2 new Board members and that she had also received an application from Tom Craig, who would like to eventually serve on the Library Board,

**Council** agreed to add the two appointments to the Consent Agenda.

## 8. Use of Central Park (Sesquicentennial)

The Historic Conservation Committee has requested the use of Central Park on September 14, 2019 from 4 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

## 9. Armor Request

At the June Council Meeting, resident Mike Armour requested consideration to memorialize an encroachment along Lakeside Trail that has been in existence for several decades. At the June Tree Board Meeting, they agreed to allow very selective trimming of trees by the Village's chosen firm, of which the cost would be borne by Mr. Armour.

**Burns** explained that Mr. Armour was present to answer any questions Council might have and that the Tree Board had given the ok to trim the trees in the fall, which was the best time for the trees to be trimmed. **Council** agreed to allow the tennis court to continue to encroach on Village property for the reasonable life span of the court. Mr. Armour asked for something in writing for the encroachment. **Burns** was going to have the Village Attorney draft an agreement with Mr. Armour paying cost.

## 10. Village Manager Performance Appraisal

**Hinga** went over the Village Manager's Performance Appraisal and explained the scoring. **Council** discussed the Manager's performance and agreed on a 4% raise.

## 11. Communications

- Beautification update
- Complaints
  - Boven
  - Chesney
  - Devries
  - Marshall
  - Rollins
  - Penney
  - Werner

**Burns** shared that most of the complaints were regarding high water levels.

- DNR Public Hearing (buoy placement)
- NOCH Newsletter
- Short-term rental update - **Burns** updated Council on Spring Lake Townships Short-Term Rental Ordinance.

**Burns** noted that the MML Conference was in Detroit this year and encouraged Council to attend and that No Life Guard on Duty signs had been ordered for Lakeside Beach and the Auditors were in house today and all went well. **Burns** reminded Council to fill out the survey and return to the auditors.

## 12. Minutes

Minutes of the June 10, 2019 Work Session and June 10, 2019 regular meeting are attached for review. Should you wish to make edits, please share that information with Chris Burns or Maryann Fonkert prior to July 12, 2019.

## 13. Public Comment

Ruth Anne Lomas, 438 Buena Vista, was present and asked Council to install a speed bump on Buena Vista to slow cars down. She circulated a "petition" and all of her neighbors signed it. Mrs. Lomas backed into her mailbox while trying to avoid hitting her neighbor who was walking. Ms. Lomas attributed the accident to a speeding motorist who was trying to pass the trash truck

**Delamater** said he had to install speed bumps in a previous community and that after a short time the residents on that street wanted them removed due to the noise of the cars bumping over them and then accelerating once they were over it. **Miller** said that Buena Vista had been rebuilt for Traffic Calming. **Van Strate** said that a number of years ago speed pumps had been discussed for Buena Vista and Parkhurst but decided against it figuring traffic would just use a different street.

Gary Hanks said he read a quote that if you are not being criticized then you are not doing your job, so Council must be doing a great job! Hanks said that even bad social media was good publicity and made people aware of what's going on in the Village. Hanks commented that the general public was not able to post to the DDA or the Village Facebook page, they could only comment on what the Village posts. **Burns** said that once something was posted on the Village site, the Village was not allowed to remove it and that can go really bad, really fast.

**14. Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

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Mark Powers, Village President

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Maryann Fonkert, Deputy Clerk