

COLON VILLAGE COUNCIL

Village Hall

REGULAR MEETING – January 11, 2022

Meeting Call to Order: at 7:00pm – Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Present: Dick Delp, Eddie LeBoeuf, Marilyn McManus, Michael Malmborg, Linda Norton, Sharon Craun. Absent Jodi Gross (excused).

Also Present: Chief Mark Brinkert, Billi Farrand, Matt Barrett, RA Kuhlmann, David Senkewitz, Melissa Marsh and Kimberly Struck, Keith Stickley.

Approve Consent Agenda-

1. Approval of Agenda – E. LeBoeuf made a motion to approve the agenda with the following additions: *Old Business; g. Discuss the Curbs by Design invoice, h. Covid Policy. New Business: d. Irrigation Control, S. Craun asked to move Melissa Marsh and Kimberly Struck from Colonial Life under Public Comments e. Sign.* Seconded by L. Norton. Motion passed.
2. M. McManus made a motion to approve the December 14, 2021, regular session and closed minutes and payment of December 2021 bills in the amount of \$127,229.16 and payroll in the amount of \$60,356.70. Seconded by L. Norton. The motion passed

Public Comment:

1. Keith Stickley represents the owner’s group who purchased Lamb Knit, discussed update and/or lack of updates for Lamb Knit. The Owners Group is a little frustrated with the process or lack or process with how they feel the communication with Flies&VanderBrink. S. Craun thanked Mr. Stickley and told him that she would reach out to Flies&VanderBrink.
2. Melissa Marsh gave a verbal presentation about Colonial Life Supplemental Insurance that they would like to offer the Village of Colon. The Colon Township is already enrolled with them. Melissa planned on setting up individual meeting with the employees to go more in depth with the cost and coverage. Melissa also mentioned that if the council members were interested in it as well, they could join as a direct payment policy holder.

Monthly Reports

1. Department of Public Works – report as presented.
 - a. Finished up with leaf pickup. It went pretty well. It did take longer than usual but it did get done.
 - b. Received two estimates for the Lagoon Power/Irrigation Control Building, they are in your packets for review.
 - a. M. Barrett stated the owner of Manson Construction is his brother-in-law, however he recommends we go with Baker Brothers. He did come in with a lower bid and Manson did not want to put steel on because of all the condiments coming in and out of the building. Baker said he would do it for about six hundred more. It is M. Barrett’s recommendation that we put steel on the building. He thinks steel would be better then vinyl. Baker is local and we have done business with him (Baker) in the past.
 - b. Much discussion about the Irrigation Control Building.
 - i. E. LeBoeuf made a motion to hire Baker Brothers Construction to complete the repairs for the Lagoon Power/ Irrigation Control Building at a cost not to exceed five thousand

dollars and provide proof of insurance to the office. Seconded by D. Delp. Roll Call, M. McManus—Yes, M. Malmborg—Yes, E. LeBoeuf—Yes, D. Delp—Yes, L. Norton—Yes, S. Craun—Yes. Motion Passed Absent: Gross

- c. The snow equipment is prepped and ready to go.
 - d. Christmas decorations will be taken down the week of January 10th.
 - e. John Walls is fitting in really well. He has brought with him skill sets and different perspectives while learning the job.
 - f. Nathan has been stepping up and taking charge when I am not available. He shows up after hours when needed. He has been doing a really good job.
 - a. E. LeBoeuf asked if there has been any progress on the inlet structure? M. Barrett said they are waiting. They couldn't discharge early enough to do a double discharge. The amount of water they would have to keep in the lagoon is above sludge level. It would have filled the pond, there would not have been any operating room for the winter. He is waiting to do that until late summer. Matt wants to do a sludge judge before then to make sure the sludge level is at and make sure it's not over covered and that is the problem and not the pipe.
2. Police – report as presented
- a. M. Malmborg asked how much the new stop sticks were. M. Brinkert said six hundred. If we use it within the eleven-year period, we get free replacement. The stop sticks are one use.
3. Office Manager – as presented
- a. We received our ARPA payment in the amount of \$60,603.00. The other half will be here December 2022.
 - b. Asked Kathy Mieras about using monies from our sewer saving account if need to the repair of the inlet structure. She said we could.
 - c. Received notification from The Emergency and Homeland Security Division, we will receive funding for the damages we received from the storm in August.
4. Fire board – presented by Marilyn McManus
- a. There will be a meeting January 12 at the Fire and Rescue Building. M. McManus stated that in last months minutes she made an error. The were waiting to get \$500 more dollars and She stated that it was \$5000.00.
 - b. There is an update on the jaws of life. Matt Overholt called the rep, he was able to get a new quote of \$22,839.78 plus shipping, which would be a saving of about \$2,000.00. The rep also informed Matt that the jaws of life will be going up to around \$26,000.00 next year. The donations were \$12,250.00, we have approved Matt to take \$10,000.00 from the rescue fund. Matt has a silent donor who would like to donate to cover the remaining cost. The board has approved him to order it. The jaws of life will take around 60 days for it to come in.
 - i. S. Craun wanted to make sure that everyone knows the rescue fund if from donation for memorial and such. The money is saved for this type of purchase.
5. Lake Board – nothing to presented.
- a. You can find out more information on www.colontownshiplakeboard.com
6. Planning Commission – presented by Eddie LeBoeuf
- a. Doug Kuhlman gave the Master Plan to the Southwest Planning Commission, and they came back with some recommendations. Doug helped us with those recommendations, and we made them on the spot. We added another appendix to include all the maps and graphs. We fixed the typos and did a once over. The Southwest Planning Commission also said we should extend the public review time because the correct procedures were not followed in 2014 when it was published. This is considered a major review.

We need a sixty-day review period. We pushed our public hearing to March 1, 2022, at 6pm at the Village Hall. We will also have it republished in the paper. It will also be on the website for review.

7. Colon Community Park – nothing to present
8. DDA Committee – RA Kuhlmann presented an oral report
 - a. The DDA website is live now, www.visitcolonmi.us.
 - b. RA Kuhlmann said it really something. She hopes every looks at it and they can put their email in and get updates
 - c. They are in the process of getting the MSU things put together. They are having a meeting with the Branch County Community Foundation January 12th @ 9am about fundraising and grants.
 - d. January 18th there will be a zoom meeting with RRC with Juliet Trumble to discuss grants to help with the master plan. She knows that the master plan is the planning commissions area but it also affects the DDA. She would like them to work together on the master plan. This will be a way to get an amazing one done.
 - e. Trying to find vendors for the POP ups.
 - i. S. Craun asked if they would be available for Christmas in Colon? RA Kuhlmann said she didn't think it would be feasible.
 - f. When we start collecting on Tif money we will be able to hire a DDA Director. We really need one because we are all volunteers, and we have jobs. We need one desperately, there is so much that needs to be done.
9. Blight Report – as reported.
10. Zoning Report – as reported.
11. Other committee Reports

Unfinished Business

- a) Handbook Review – Personnel Committee.
 - a. E. LeBoeuf made a motion to table the handbook review until next month. Seconded M. Malmborg. Motion passed.
- b) Budget Workshop
 - a. January 25, 2022 @ 6pm at the Village Hall.
- c) Romine Street
 - a. House sold.
- d) Marijuana Public Hearing
 - a. E. LeBoeuf made a motion to table the Marijuana Public Hearing until next month. Seconded by M. McManus. Motion passed.
- e) Lease Agreement – Sharp
 - a. M. McManus made a motion to table the Lease Agreement with Sharps until next month. Seconded by M. Malmborg. Motion passed.
- f) Clerk/Treasurer
 - a. M. McManus made a motion to table until next month after they conduct the 2 interviews they have. Seconded by L. Norton. Motion passed.
- g) Curbs by Design Invoice
 - a. B. Farrand stated at it was approved by the park committee in June 2021. It was supposed to be brought to the Village Council for their approval in July. E. Doenges was not at the council meeting and I'm not sure if at that time we have a council rep on the park board. At the August 2021 Park board meeting they did not have a date of completion. E. Doenges said Curbs by Design stopped at the bait shop today

and wanted payment. She told him that he had not completed the job and would not get paid until it was done.

- b. M. McManus made a motion to table the Curbs by Design until E. Doenges approaches the council for payment when the work is finished. Seconded by L. Norton. Motion passed.

h) Covid Policy

- a. After much discussion E. LeBoeuf made a motion to table until next month. Seconded by L. Norton. Motion passed.

New Business

a) Colonial Life Supplementary Medical Insurance – Melissa Marsh

- a. Moved up under Public Comments.

b) Sharing/Donated Sick Time

- a. L. Norton made a motion to table Sharing/Donate Sick Time until next month. Seconded by M. Malmborg. Motion passed.

c) Concrete Pile – Maintenance Barn

- a. M. Barrett expressed concern about the concrete was coming out to far. He did receive 2 quotes to have it pushed back. M. Barrett does have it block so people going in and out of the DPW yards don't hit it.
- b. M. Barrett's preference would be to wait until they can crush it. It is protruding out into the road; our equipment is not big enough to move it.
- c. Fisher said they would do it for \$1,000.00 and Nystrom said they could do it for \$1,500.00.
- d. Much discussion.

d) School Signs

- a. The school would like to have the signs updated and some replaced.
 - i. There would be four signs. The cost of the signs would be around \$2,360.60 to update the signs. It would be on each end of the town. M. Malmborg said the problem with the signs is that they are not tall enough.
 - ii. MDOT doesn't cover these signs. It would be on the Village. E. LeBoeuf suggested we ask the township if they would like to split the bill.
- b. S. Craun said she would reach out to Sandy Jackson (Colon Township) and see if they would be willing to split the cost us.
- c. M. McManus said we had requested Jim Weinberg to order new sign or give us prices for all the public access signs that we do not have and update some of our other signs. She is not sure if this is a priority or if we should do what we already requested to be done.
- d. The Council gave M. Barrett a list of signs that need to be ordered.
- e. M. Malmborg made a motion to table the signage until next month. Seconded by E. LeBoeuf. Motion passed

Public Comments

- a) No Public Comments

Correspondence

- a) No Correspondence

Adjournment – M. McManus made motion to adjourn. Seconded by L. Norton. The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Billi Farrand

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