



VILLAGE OF SUTTONS BAY  
420 N FRONT STREET, SUTTONS BAY, MI 49682  
VILLAGE COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES OF August 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 a.m. by President Lutke.

Present: Bahle, Christensen, Lutke, Perkins, Smith, Suppes & Yoder

Absent:

Staff present: Larrea & Petroskey

**Consent Agenda**

Bahle moved, Suppes seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Consent agenda as presented. The June 16, 2025 Village Council meeting minutes are approved. The August 13, 2025 special meeting minutes are approved. The payments for invoices are approved. The Committee of the Whole September meeting will be moved to September 9, 2025 Ayes: 7 No: 0.

**Conflict of Interest: None**

**Agenda approval**

Smith moved Suppes seconded, CARRIED to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: 6, No: 0.

**Public comment/Communications:** Email Communication received from Kathryn Danielson.

Kathryn Danielson spoke regarding her communication relating to St Marys Street speed and stop signs. She questioned the cleaning of the sand at the Marina Beach, handicap parking and enforcement of Ordinances.

Bill Crackel spoke about speed on St Marys Street and Ordinance enforcement.

**Local Government Approval for Off Premise Tasting Room**

Council was presented with an application for an off-site tasting room for Grand Traverse Distillery, LLC., at 321 St. Joseph Street. Staff noted off premise tasting rooms are allowed in the Central Business District.

Bahle moved, Smith seconded, to approve Resolution 2 of 2025 to approve the application for an off premise tasting room to be located at 321 St Joseph Street. Roll Call Vote: Yoder-Yes, Perkins-Yes, Bahle-Yes, Suppes-Yes, Christensen-Yes, Smith-Yes, Lutke-Yes. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

## **Manager's Review-Contract Amendment**

Lutke stated that the personnel committee met and is recommending the following:

That the Manager's Contract be amended to provide for a cost of living increase each year based on COLA; a 2.5 Cola increase for year two; and a bonus of \$3000 based on his evaluation.

Suppes moved, Yoder seconded to amend the contract to provide for a Cola increase and recommendations from the personnel committee.

Discussion: Bahle stated that it should be stated in the contract which COLA would be applied such as the social security administration.

Christensen explained that the recommendations for an increase and bonus is based on the manager's leadership skills, grants received, settlement of legal issues, and staff relations.

Questions concerning whether the motion was just for an amendment to the contract or all recommendations from the personnel committee. Suppes stated it was only for the amendment to the contract. Suppes, rescinded and Yoder agreed.

Motion by Suppes, seconded by Yoder, CARRIED to amend the manager's contract to provide for an annual COLA increase based on the Annual information provided by Social Security Administration. Roll Call Vote: Yoder-Yes, Perkins-Yes, Bahle-Yes, Suppes-Yes, Christensen-Yes, Smith-Yes, Lutke-Yes. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion by Bahle, seconded by Yoder, CARRIED, to grant a bonus in the amount of \$3000 based on the manager's evaluation. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

## **Appointment of Rebecah Tenbrink to the DDA**

Amy Peterson submitted her resignation from the Downtown Development Authority. Lutke is recommending Rebecah Tenbrink from LIFT/Friendship Center to be appointed.

Motion by Lutke, seconded by Yoder, CARRIED to appoint Rebecah Tenbrink to fulfill Amy Peterson's unexpired term through December 31, 2027. Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

## **Staff Reports- Presented**

### **Good of the Order:**

Member Perkins spoke regarding opening Waterwheel Park in its entirety and reinstalling the sculpture; Farmers Market, and EV charging stations.

Member Suppes talked about traffic on St Marys Street and placement of stop signs.

Member Christensen spoke regarding traffic calming measures on St Marys.  
Member Smith talked about speed on South Shore Drive and Ordinance violations.

Member Lutke stated the closed area of waterwheel park is to stabilize the banks of the creek. He added he was glad to see Manager Larrea back in the office.

**Public Comment-** Kathryn Danielson stated that she used to like waterwheel park and no longer goes there. She would like to see the waterwheel put back.

Chava Bahle thanked the Village for all they do. She stated she lives across the street from Waterwheel Park and it is glorious. She enjoys the park and it is always busy.

William Crackel stated the park is uninviting and his road remains unfixed. He added that they jetted his sewer line again because the toilets were bubbling. He talked about STRs and that fact they are required to provide two parking spaces onsite pursuant to the Ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Dorothy Petroskey, Village Clerk.