



GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Meeting notes of November 5, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 8:12 a.m.

Present: Case, Lutke and Suppes
Staff present: DeVol, Fay, Larrea and Miller
Guests: Casey Ressler and Chris Kushman, TART Trails

Reports

The Committee Status Report was submitted by DPW Director Miller and can be found in this meeting packet. Miller reported the new salt truck is at Truck and Trailer Specialties and should be ready to be picked up tomorrow; it will need tires. The service vehicle is being worked on and will be ready in about a week.

The Manager's Report VSB 2019-74 was submitted by Larrea and can be found in this meeting packet.

Public Comments

Rich Bahle stated the Tart Trail has flooded by the Depot, with 6-10 inches of water flooding the trail. He stated TART Trails has volunteered to replace the culvert and repave the area, however, he doesn't believe it is their responsibility. Bahle talked about the Village's infrastructure and noted some flooding/runoff areas on Broadway and by Seeley's place. The ditches and cross culverts are full and the retention basins next to Hansen's never dries up. Stallman Chemicals have redug their ditch. He encouraged the Township and Village to look at the bigger picture, and start the conversation, believing a governmental entity should initiate the conversation. He suggested some cost sharing and participation with MDOT, the road commission, and land owners in the water shed as a possibilities, as well as a special assessment. Bahle stated the options may not be costly and suggested an Engineer be hired to define the watershed. He requested this issue be made a priority by Council and action taken.

Kathy Egan believes it to be a regional problem, noting large volumes of water coming down the slope, and believes that one heavy rain could devastate the Village's infrastructure. Egan stated that in the drainage district portions of the whole cost would be based on different variables, a multi-factored issue. She suggests the Village take action.

Committee members provided further comment. Case voiced support for any idea to address the water runoff and retention, questioned who the initiating party should be and requested further action. Lutke stated that if there is an issue, we should start the process and pursue it, however he does not have enough information on the subject yet. He asked where the drainage district was located. Are there other problems that will contribute to the water issue?

Staff members provided further comment. Larrea stated Bahle's public comment mentioned many issues, and that not all of them were Village issues. In fact, some of Bahle's issues Larrea has never heard of before, noting multiple issues and variables. He further believes the Village should not initiate the conversation regarding Bahle's comments. Larrea asked Bahle if he knew if there were any existing maintenance agreements out there; Bahle was unsure. Larrea further stated he believes there is more than one issue on Broadway. Larrea also believes it to be a Township issue due to property owners are allowed to tile above. DPW Director Miller will look for a point source of the water, and wondered if there was a retention pond not working. Miller stated that it takes a lot of planning and evaluation noting likely no quick solution.

Lutke deferred to Village staff to explore and make a recommendation on how to proceed.

Report VSB-2019-71 Hall Rental Findings

Suppes stated he researched the subject due to public requests to use the Village Hall conference room. His findings can be found in the meeting packet. As a result of his findings, Suppes recommends the Village Hall Conference not be made available to the general public. Following discussion such as why we wouldn't offer the space to tax payers, and due to ongoing Village business, security of records, after hour staffing, cleaning issues, and ample other resources available, Committee concurs with the findings to not make the Village Hall conference room available, and the subject is considered resolved in Committee.

Report VSB-2019-72 TART 2% Grant Request from GTB

Following an update on Leelanau Trails from TART staff members Casey Ressler and Chris Kushman, and pointing out the GTB 2% Grant Request is relative to bullet #1 on the handout attached to the minutes, Committee recommends forwarding the request to Village Council for approval.

Report VSB-2019-73 Generator Purchase for Water & Sewer

Larrea stated due to multiple ongoing issues at the Port Sutton Lift Station and well house, demanding a considerable amount of staff time, the request for permanent generators is of high priority. Currently there is no backup for a failure. The new generators would help to protect the Village water and sanitary system, and maintain a level of customer service. Miller stated it is much safer to have these automatic

processes in place. The Village is working with Consumers Energy to upgrade their dated system as well, which is part of the issue with the power failure. The existing portable generators are dated but are adequate although nearing the end of their service. They are under a maintenance agreement. Committee asked about the difference in the price of the two generators. Capacity and sizing for each application constitutes the difference. Committee recommends Village Council approve the purchase of the two requested generators.

Budget Discussion

Suppes stated he prefers the proposed budget that includes the explanations on the side. Larrea explained Major Streets is funded by the State, County, and taxpayers. The TAP Grant and street projects to be completed by Elmer's will come out of this fund, and then we can see where we are at. Larrea stated that maintenance remains about the same year to year. Local Streets are funded by the State, the General Fund, and interest earnings. Sewer is funded by Waste Hauler fees currently at four cents per gallon. Larrea is recommending an increase to six cents per gallon, aligning the Village with other WWTP. A limit was placed on the waste hauler due to high volume of waste because it is a biological system and should not handle more than it was built for. Jacobs and the bond payment are also paid from this fund. The Village has a state mandated gooseneck replacement project coming out of the Water fund. The bond payment, interest and expenses will come out of the Marina fund, supported by Marina revenue. The new trucks will come out of the Property replacement fund, which is in the budget. The DDA is unfunded so far.

Committee Member Comments

Case stated that on September 3rd, Committee members agreed upon a forester evaluation. Case identified five more dead or dangerous trees on the trail that were not removed. Miller stated the evaluation took place and the trees identified as hazardous were removed. Larrea stated a contract was signed and fulfilled. Case stated hazardous tree(s) still existed in the Village right of way and at Boones. DeVol stated that 15 trees were removed in Bahle Park, including trees by Suppes, and existing downed trees were removed. The Village was invoiced.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Meeting notes submitted by Shar Fay, Village Clerk.