



VILLAGE OF SUTTONS BAY
420 N FRONT ST
SUTTONS BAY, MI 49682
VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024

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

Present: Bahle, Case, Christensen, Lutke, Smith and Suppes
Absent: Yoder
Staff present: Aylsworth, Fay, and Larrea

Consent Agenda

Bahle moved, Case seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Consent agenda as presented. The Village Council meeting minutes of December 5, 2023, are approved. The payment of invoices is approved. Ayes: 6, No: 0.

Agenda Approval

Case moved, Smith seconded, CARRIED, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: 6, No: 0.

Public Comment/Communication

Public comments received from Stratton Way residents voicing concerns with safety on Stratton Way. Public comment received from Pat Gaudard and Pete Ostrowski in support of changing Stratton Way to a one-way due to safety concerns. Written public comment received from Janice and Allen Wolfe requesting Stratton Way become a one-way street to the north.

VS-2024-09 Marina Slip Request

It was the consensus of Council to support the decision of the Harbormaster to deny a request from a slip holder to transfer their slip to a family member because the Marina Ordinance does not allow for transfer of slips.

VS-2024-06 Stratton Way Petition

Commissioners discussed the request to change Stratton Way to a one-way and made the following comments:

- Concerns that the Stratton Way residents would not abide by the one-way if it was changed.
- The road is very narrow, substandard in width.
- Consider a traffic safety study.
- Shouldn't not impact anyone except the homeowners if it was changed to a one-way.

- Public comments were valid.
- The change would require additional signage if it is made into a one-way.
- Should it be blocked off? Blocking off would cause concerns with plow trucks and emergency vehicles.
- If the Village changes the street to a one way, will the Village then have to consider the other streets in the Village if requested?
- Residents often park in the street.
- The road is in bad condition.
- Is it legal for the Village to make it a one-way?
- Is there any harm to turning it to a one way?
- If there are signs placed there, will they be enforced?
- Commissioners support the idea of keeping residents safe.

It was the consensus of Council for the Village Manager to pursue options and alternatives with the goal of keeping residents safe. In addition, Council would like to hear comments from the DPW department. The matter will be discussed further at a future meeting.

VSB-2024-08 Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Bahle moved, Case seconded, CARRIED, to approve the zoning ordinance amendments and adopt Ordinance No. Z-2024-01 (Amendment 12 of 2 of 2018) as recommended by the Planning Commission, with an affirmative unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: 6, No: 0.

VSB-2024 Marina Master Plan – Set for Public Hearing

Lutke moved, Suppes seconded, CARRIED, to schedule a public hearing at the next regularly scheduled Village Council meeting on March 18, 2024, to take comments on the proposed 2024 Marina Master Plan. Ayes: 6, No: 0.

Manager Report

Larrea referred to the update on the M-22 Pedestrian Crossing near Sutton Park, noting the proposed crossing is part of a bigger picture for pedestrian traffic. The crossing would be ADA compliant. Larrea has met with MDOT to discuss a redesign in that stretch with the intent of bringing down the speed from Richter Rd. to the Village, and to get pedestrians off of M-22.

Good of the order

Christensen congratulated Lou Bufka as a Waterworks System Operator. She supports the M-22 pedestrian crossing, and appreciates the residents that came forward and spoke at the meeting tonight.

Bahle encouraged the public to come to the meetings more often, including Committee meetings, and to even run for office, and that the Village has been trying to slow down M-22 for some time.

Case stated we have a wonderful Village with great participation. He would like the Village to accept residential development for low-income housing. He stated the Village should consider visioning the direction of our Village and to think ahead.

Smith likes the effort for the pedestrian crossing at Sutton Park and M-22.

Lutke stated that it helps decision making when the public attends and comments at the meetings.

Public comment

Public comments supporting changes on Stratton Way were made.

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Shar Fay, Clerk.