

VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – DATE: 06-03-20

Village Council President, David Grosse called the (virtual) Village Council Special Meeting to order at 7:10 pm via “Zoom” due to the Governor’s “Stay Home – Stay Safe” executive order because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Pledge of Allegiance: Yes

Roll Call: Present: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Newquist, Zebell, Grosse

Absent: Pappa

Approval of the Agenda as presented by Village Council President, David Grosse.

Moved: Thomas Supported: Graziano Aye: 6 Nay: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

- **TRUTH in TAXATION – SET the MILLAGE RATES for 2020:** A Motion was made to approve Resolution #06-2020-1, a Resolution to set the 2020 millage rate at 9.0015 mills for General Operations and 3.6004 mills for Streets. This represents no change in the Millage rate that was previously set in 2019. Moved: Newquist Supported: Thomas Aye: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Newquist, Zebell, Grosse Nay: None Absent: Pappa Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.
- **DISCUSSION of OPTIONS for RECYCLING SERVICES:** There was discussion about the option of continuing with Lakeshore Recycling or looking into pricing with another company for trash and recycling services. It was noted that a contract is in place until May, 2023 with Lakeshore Recycling for the trash portion. There is no actual contract in place for recycling services, so the Village could pursue options with another company. Council also discussed checking into what it would cost if the contract for trash services was broken allowing another company to quote the Village for both trash and recycling. **Village Clerk, Cynthia Moynihan** said that it is unlikely to get rates close to what the Village currently has with Lakeshore Recycling since their rates have not increased in over 10 years. The concern with Lakeshore Recycling is that very little is actually being recycled. They state that they are taking the loads to (3) different recycling stations. The loads are all being delivered, however, if there is too much garbage mixed in with the recyclables, then the loads are considered contaminated. They are then rejected and must be hauled back to the landfill with a fine assessed. This fee has never been passed back on to the Village-Lakeshore has absorbed this cost. **Council Member, Becky Thomas** said that Michiana Recycling uses special bags for recycling-they are clearly marked. Could Lakeshore provide something like that for the Village? Becky also suggested that we get a list of items that are considered recyclable and provide that to the residents along with set guidelines from Lakeshore Recycling. **Council Member, Colleen Newquist** stated that everyone she has talked to wants to continue village-wide with recycling and they care about the environment. She also said that the residents just need to be educated about recycling. **Council Member, Steve Graziano** said that if Village residents got to choose their own company and were paying for the service that they would be more conscientious about determining what goes in the recycling container. **Council Member, Troy Zebell** asked how does someone know where the recycling is really going – if it is being truly separated and processed? **Council President, Dave Grosse** responded that there are “tickets” given to Lakeshore Recycling proving that the items were delivered to a recycling processing center. The Village can ask for monthly receipts for proof of delivery. However, it cannot be proven what actually

happens with the load once it is left at the recycling center. **Council Member, John Kramer** suggested the use of a centralized recycling station. **A Motion was made to extend the recycling services provided by Lakeshore Recycling through June 30, 2020. Moved: Kramer Supported: Newquist Aye: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Newquist, Zebell, Grosse Nay: None Absent: Pappa Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.** **A Motion was made to add a special assessment of \$36.00 for recycling services to the 2020 property tax bills. Moved: Newquist Supported: Kramer Aye: Kramer, Thomas, Newquist, Grosse Nay: Graziano, Zebell Absent: Pappa Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.**

- **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** **Council Member, Colleen Newquist** asked about the mini-tribute parade for the 2020 River Valley graduates and Flag Day that was being held on Friday, June 5, 2020. She said that this appears to be a Village sponsored/endorsed event if the streets are going to be shut down and there is a police presence. She asked if the Village is liable due to COVID-19 if the anticipated group is over 100 people which is in direct violation of the "Stay Home – Stay Safe" order which is now in place. Colleen expressed her concern that the Council wasn't previously informed about the parade – feels they should have been involved from the start. **Council Member, Becky Thomas** said that if the Village sanctions the parade then the Village is liable. She further stated that she wants to be able to honor the graduates, but disagrees with the way it has been handled. **Council President, Dave Grosse** said that the intention to keep it "quiet" was so that there was NOT a large gathering of people. **Village Manager, Dan Faulkner** commented that the 2020 graduating class should be honored and that it is a great thing to do for them. **A Motion was made to close the streets for the short mini-tribute parade for the 2020 River Valley graduates and to honor Flag Day. Moved: Graziano Supported: Kramer Aye: Graziano, Kramer, Thomas, Zebell, Grosse Nay: Newquist Absent: Pappa Abstain: None MOTION CARRIED.**
- **AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** **Audience Member, Tom Flint** asked if there was an insurance policy in place for the parade and why does the Village not know if there is. **Audience Member, Tyler Ream** asked if the Village would post the "tickets/receipts" showing that the recycling loads were delivered to the recycling center, and whether the residents were doing a good job or not of determining what is and what is not recyclable? This information could be posted to Facebook and/or the Village's website. He also said that Chikaming Township released a statement about their departmental procedures in reference to the George Floyd protests – he asked if the Three Oaks police department could do the same. **Audience Member, Thomas Pauly** said that we need stickers on the recycling cans to clearly define them as such. It may clear up some of the confusion between the recycling and trash cans. **Audience Member, Joe Hinman** asked if everything could be kept as safe as possible for the parade.

- **MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:01 pm**

Submitted by:

Cynthia E. Moynihan

Cynthia E. Moynihan,
Three Oaks Village Clerk

Proposed Minutes for the 06-03-20 Special Council Meeting