



The Village of  
**Port Sanilac**

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**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
Village of Port Sanilac Council Meeting  
December 21, 2023

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by B. Hunter.

President Falcon calls the Council Meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**Council Members Present:** M. Balysh, S. Balysh, L. Hahn, B. Hunter, B. Simon, A. True, D. Falcon

**Staff Present:** Don Morath, Larry O'Keefe, Barbara Rabineau

**Guests:** Al Daum, Andrew Karr, Jeff Smeader, Jenny Sroka, Jim Sroka

**Agenda/Additions:**

1. Letter from Ferris, Schwedler & O'Mara dated December 13, 2023

**Motion** by S. Balysh, seconded by A. True to approve Agenda and Addition. **Motion Carried.**

**Public Comment:**

- a. Dan Finn commented on the Museum's Lighted Trail being available for residents and visitors throughout the Holiday Season.

**Presidential Appointments:** None

**Presentations:** None

**Petitions and Communications:**

- a. Letter from Ferris, Schwedler & O'Mara dated December 13, 2023 was read into the record.
- b. **Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by B. Simon to forward to the Sanilac East Fire Authority \$110,000.00 from the Village of Port Sanilac Fire Truck Fund, as requested by the Sanilac East Fire Authority Board and recommended by Corporate Counsel, Finance and Governance Committees; Account 214-100-965.  
**Motion Carried.**
- c. **Motion** by S. Balysh, seconded by B. Hunter to request the Port Sanilac Treasurer to send a letter to SEFA confirming the breakdown of each entity's contribution to the Village of Port Sanilac restricted replacement truck fund; monies to be deposited into a Sanilac East Fire Authority restricted replacement truck fund.  
**Motion Carried.**
- d. L. Hahn questioned community donations made to SEFA; B. Hunter suggested that she attend the SEFA meeting on December 27, 2023.

**Village Departments, Committees, and Commissions:**

**Governance:**

- a. Sheriff's November Incident Report was presented by Don Morath. Mr. Morath also provided a brief history of the Village of Port Sanilac Police Department and the decision to contract on-premise policing with the Sanilac County Sheriff's Department.
- b. Harbor Master's Report dated December 12, 2022 was presented by the Clerk.

**Community Development/Parks and Recreation:**

- a. Community Development/Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes dated November 29, 2023 were presented by Amy True. A discussion regarding an ice rink at the Bark Shanty Community Center will be continued after receipt of additional liability insurance information and maintenance concerns being addressed. Stage storage concerns were presented with alternative locations to allow the stage to be used for its intended purpose.
- b. Parks & Recreation Report dated December 13, 2023 was presented by Chad Gainor. Chad advised that the Village of Port Sanilac is not eligible for the 2024 Sparks Grant; he is researching other grant opportunities. The upcoming Music Night at the BSCC is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2024.

**Finance Committee:**

- a. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes dated December 7, 2023 were presented by Larry O'Keefe.
- b. **Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by L. Hahn to approve purchase of a replacement DPW snow blower, Husqvarna Model ST224, 24-inch from Tractor Supply for \$1,099.99, as recommended by the Finance Committee; charge account 661-100-930. **Motion Carried.**

**New Business:** None

**Previous Business:**

- a. SEFA request to move Village firetruck fund to SEFA; see Petitions and Communications.

**Bills:**

- a. **Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by A. True to approve Village bills **PAID** dated December 12, 2023 in the amount of \$22,846.31. **Motion Carried.**
- b. **Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by L. Hahn to approve Harbor bills **PAID** dated December 13, 2023 in the amount of \$155.48. **Motion Carried.**
- c. **Motion** by S. Balysh, seconded by B. Hunter to approve Village bills **TO BE PAID** dated December 21, 2023 in the amount of \$14,609.09. **Motion Carried.**
- d. **Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by A. True to approve Harbor bills **TO BE PAID** dated December 22, 2023 in the amount of \$409.64. **Motion Carried.**

**Minutes:**

- Motion** by D. Falcon, seconded by M. Balysh to approve the Council Meeting Minutes dated December 7, 2023, as presented. **Motion Carried.**

**Meeting Minutes December 21, 2023**

**Business Manager:** Larry O'Keefe

**a. Motion** by B. Hunter, seconded by L. Hahn to remove Planning Commission Member for noncompliance with Federal Employment requirements and Redevelopment Ready Community recommendations and provide staff guidance on how to proceed with the matter. **Motion Carried.** President Falcon directed the Clerk to draft a letter to be signed by President Falcon and sent registered mail.

**Clerk:** Barbara Rabineau

**a.** Updated Sub-Committee Assignments was distributed to Council; additional changes include: Linda Hahn, Finance Committee Chairperson, Sue Balysh, Community Development/Parks and Recreation Chairperson, and Amy True, Community Development/Parks and Recreation Committee Member.

**b.** Updated Directory was distributed to Council Members.

**Work in Progress:**

**a.** 2022 Water Project – Larry O'Keefe updated Council on the booster station design, the upcoming state review and then the bid process will begin.

**Public Comment:**

**a.** Don Morath spoke to the Morath Foundation donation to the Sanilac Historical Museum. Dan Finn also spoke to the press release for the donation as well as the upcoming electrical upgrades to the Sanilac Historical Museum.

**b.** Jim Sroka voiced concerns regarding the electrical box vulnerability at the Harbor. He was notified that the rails have been installed by Cliff A. Messing Excavating, Inc.

**c.** M. Balysh asked for minutes from the meetings held with SEFA, Forester Township, Sanilac Township, the Village of Port Sanilac, and the attorneys. President Falcon advised that the meetings that have taken place were specifically held to address the Articles of Incorporation changing from a three-party to a two-party corporation. Mike Balysh asked for confirmation that all upcoming decisions regarding SEFA will be presented under one proposal/contract. President Falcon confirmed individual contract line items will not be brought for Council approval; the contract will be negotiated and then brought to Council for action. B. Hunter stated this Council will need to motion not to dissolve the Sanilac East Fire Authority.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion** by D. Falcon, seconded by B. Hunter to adjourn the council meeting at 8:25 pm. **Motion Carried.**



Barbara Rabineau  
Clerk