



The Village of
Port Sanilac

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Approved Meeting Minutes
Village of Port Sanilac Town Hall Meeting
September 30, 2023

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by President Falcon.

President Falcon called the Town Hall Meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Council Members Present: M. Balysh, S. Balysh, J. Southard, D. Falcon

Council Members Absent: J. Davis, R. Mach

Staff Present: Don Morath, Barbara Rabineau

Guests: Jim Badowska, Marge Badowska, Jody Becker, Mary Buron, Vic Buron, Nancy Cole, Ron Cole, Robert Dear, Brian Derowski, Beth Emond, Ray Emond, Chris Falls, Nicole Falls, Benjamin Hunter, Barb Johnson, Jim Johnson, Phil Kolakovich, Jeff Lyall, Paula Lyall, Tammy Massman, Ann Merriman, Debbie Mintz, Brian Moran Jr., Tiffany Moran, Carol Nader, Joe Nader, Mike Owens, Amy Pataehas, John Pataehas, Kathleen Poirier, Ken Poirier, Ruth Pries, Gail Regnier, Richard Regnier, Dana Rogers, John Rogers, Cindy Reisner, Carol Seifferlein, Britton Simon, Jenny Sroka, Jim Sroka, Don Thomas, Amy True, Kathy Vanhoudt, Elly Willis, Joseph Wojcik, Tammy Wojcik

Agenda:

Motion by J. Southard, seconded by M. Balysh to approve Agenda. **Motion Carried.**

Questions/Answers (Fire Department Questions Only):

- a. President Falcon stated that SEFA can exist with two parties.
- b. Council members stated they lacked understanding of the SEFA by-laws.
- c. S. Balysh wants the very best for the Residents and wants to see an end to the controversy.
- d. President Falcon, in answering a specific question, stated there is no compelling reason to leave SEFA.
- e. Questions arose regarding fire trucks and equipment. Jeff Lyall stated SEFA has paid for insurance and maintenance since inception. President Falcon stated SEFA owns the equipment unless SEFA dissolves and at that point the equipment will go back to the Village of Port Sanilac.
- f. President Falcon advised he will keep moving forward with SEFA. He would like to see the Fire Chief on the SEFA Board.
- g. Dan Finn reminded residents that we are blessed with volunteer firefighters. There is a labor crisis across the country; the Village could not afford to employ full time firefighters/medical first responders.
- h. Jeff Lyall stated the millage covers the Village of Port Sanilac.
- i. Jim Southard believes that Forester Township must include MFR in their contract.
- j. Mike Balysh spoke to the hurdle of a six-month deadline and that we need to find a way to fund MFR services.

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- k. Sue Balysh re-affirmed the importance of keeping the residents safe and providing peace of mind that the Village will continue to provide fire and MFR services.
- l. A resident suggested mediation if the parties cannot move forward.
- m. Chief Moran stated that the goal is to remain compliant.
- n. President Falcon would like to see the SEFA deadline pushed back to June 2024. He also stated a "Special Meeting" will take place next week for the appointment to the Council to fill the open seat and to amend our Ordinance to change the day of the week for regular council meetings through mid-January. The Special Meeting will be posted on the website as well as in the Village Office.
- o. Don Morath stated SEFA is redeemable; the minimum requirement is two municipalities. The Articles of Incorporation can be amended.
- p. President Falcon thanked the residents for attending and motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion by D. Falcon, seconded by J. Southard to adjourn the Village Town Hall Meeting at 2:23 pm.

Motion Carried.



Barbara Rabineau, Clerk