

Minutes for March 14th, 2023 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Marilyn Cousineau.

Present; Marilyn Cousineau, Robbie Weiss, Mike Kondrat Sr., Brandy Marvin, Gladys Joann Bell, Gabe Blackledge and Mike Kondrat Jr.

Brandy Marvin made a motion to approve the agenda and Robbie Weiss seconded the motion. All in favor.

Gladys Bell made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting Mike Kondrat Sr seconded the motion. All In favor.

Gladys Bell made a motion to accept the financial report and bills Gabe Blackledge seconded the motion. All in favor.

Public Comment –

Larry Organek wants to state he's strongly in favor of the cannabis industry and having a location in the Village of Boyne Falls. He shares an article about the pros of the industry the Petoskey News Review printed recently.

Planning committee update -

The Village has resubmitted the application to the Charlevoix County Community grant for the marketing materials on the Dam/River project.

The Consumers Energy grant has been denied – they let us know we weren't far enough along in the project. The village will resubmit an application.

Eagle Grant – Army Corp has completed the risk analysis process of the application process and submitted it.

April 5th meeting with MDOT to start a bridge grant process.

Spicer Group (an Engineering Consulting firm) coming April 14th to help us keep the project moving forward.

The hypothetical timeline for the project to be completed is August of 2028.

Dollar General has cut back trees for better visibility to pull of the parking lot on the C48.

Old Business -

Sheriff Vondra and Bryan Graham (Village Lawyer) are in attendance for further discuss on the Cannabis store allowance.

Sheriff Vondra states there is an increase in pediatric toxicity in communities with Marijuana locations, per Health Department statistics in the state of Michigan. The statistics show an increase year over year since 2018. He is opposed to allowing Cannabis in the county.

Bryan Graham states we can repeal our current ordinance prohibiting the cannabis and write a new ordinance with specifics on what types of stores and how many license that will be permitted.

2 out of the 6 types of cannabis locations will actually generate revenue for the village. 'Micro-Business' and 'Retailers' both are taxable.

Legally we can charge up to 5k for an application fee.

Bryan also states that limiting the licenses is the biggest risk for litigation. The process has to be competitive and the Cannabis industry has gotten very savvy in how to beat the 'limiting process.'

The Village has been approached several times by different cannabis operations. At this meeting we have 2 gentleman from Railroad – they offer that the locations are regulated and inspected by the state, quarterly by state employees called 'Cannabis Regulators.' Additionally the state audits their financials regularly to watch for misreporting.

New Business –

No new ordinance violations currently.

Bear River Behavioral Health concerns.

Mike Kondrat Sr is very concerned about the lack of information shared with the public in Boyne Falls. Sheriff Vondra was clear that he is not going to advertise or share every bad thing that happens in the Village. He is happy to offer a rep at our meetings every month if we'd like.

B.R.B.H. representative – Dan explains the last 2 incidents and there is clarity of the rumors. He also goes through the process of admittance and explains what happens someone "walks off".

Marilyn wanted to share that a woman fell in front of the post office and broke her ankle. The unsteadiness of the steps needs to be addressed.

Adjournment – Motion made by Brandy Marvin, seconded by Robbie Weiss. All in favor. Marilyn adjourned meeting at 8:55pm

Minutes taken and typed by Heidi Riggs