

VILLAGE OF SOUTH RANGE
REGULAR MEETING
June 05, 2025
6:00 pm

The Regular Meeting of the Village of South Range Council was held on Thursday, June 05, 2025 at the Village of South Range Community Hall; 45 Trimountain Avenue; South Range, MI 49963

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM. The following council members were present: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, & Trustee Balma. There were 10 guests in attendance. Others Present: Assistant Public Works Director Swetich, Clerk Dorsey.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

S. Sabatini (Village Resident) discussed his concern regarding his neighbors garage. He stated that the back is in the process of collapsing. He complained that the structure might fall down into Sabatini's yard the near future and wanted to know who would be responsible for cleaning it up. Trustee Harkonen suggested that the owner of the structure would be responsible for cleaning up the debris. Other members of the public expressed their concerns regarding junk ordinances and wanted to know what our current ordinance is regarding junk in peoples yards throughout the Village of South Range.

G. Anderson (County Commissioner) discussed the building of a new jailhouse in Houghton to be replacing the old jailhouse at a new location. G. Anderson also advised us that we now have three prosecutors working in Houghton County.

K. Aho Thanked us for approving her neighbors application for, and certificate of, zoning compliance for a structure rebuild. She stated that the old motel was run-down for many years and that she is very happy with how it is looking and that it is being renovated.

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Parolini to approve the April 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Korby, Trustee Harkonen, & Trustee Balma. Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Trustee Balma, with support from Trustee Korby to approve the April 10, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, & Trustee Parolini. Nays: None. Abstain: Trustee Harkonen. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Harkonen to approve the May 01, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, & Trustee Balma. Nays: None. Abstain: Trustee Korby, Trustee Parolini. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION made by Trustee Marier, with support from Trustee Harkonen to approve the May 29, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma. Nays: None. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

STREET COMMISSIONER REPORT (Presented by D. Swetich)

Assistant Public Works Director Swetich presented the following updates: D. Swetich stated that public works has been doing street clean-ups with the street sweeper and fixing potholes. Public works has been discharging the waste water for lagoon three and have until June twentieth to fully discharge the waste water. D. Swetich stated that public works would like to start repainting the street lines and parking spot lines but do not currently have the equipment for it. D. Swetich looked into the price of some that are available in Houghton and will approximately cost \$6,000. Trustee Harkonen motioned to approve the equipment and Trustee Marier seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Korby, Trustee Balma. Nays: Trustee Parolini. Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Eakin: Reported that C. Hamlin had spoken with George and wants to build a drive-thru coffee shop in the Village of South Range located at 37 Trimountain Avenue, South Range MI 49963. A zoning compliance will be submitted for the future project. President Eakin and Clerk Dorsey attended an MML meeting in Houghton, along with other municipalities from neighboring towns/cities to discuss future projects and current issues. President Eakin received a call regarding a fabricated home that would be placed in Whealkate Estates but was waiting for a zoning application from the resident to determine if it meets Whealkate Estates requirements. President Eakin also talked about our current software update and established an online account to the current software.

CLERK REPORT:

Clerk Dorsey: Reported that our new software update was complete for our general ledger and accounts payable. Clerk Dorsey issued new checks for our accounts payable and terminated old software and equipment.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

President Eakin inquired if there were any questions or concerns regarding the May 2025 bills, if none, asked for a motion to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Trustee Marier. Bills totaling: \$73,368.16, with \$7,000.56 in old bills, and \$66,367.60 in new bills. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Parolini Trustee Korby, & Trustee Balma. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS-UNFINISHED/NEW:

Dates were discussed to decide when the millage meeting date will be set for. A special meeting is needed to determine the proposed increase of current mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied in 2025. Trustee Balma motioned to set the date for Tuesday June 17, 2025 with support from Trustee Marier. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Harkonen, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

The Council decided whether or not we should renew our Whealkate bank CD. Trustee Harkonen made a motion NOT to renew the Whealkate CD. Trustee Marier seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, & Trustee Balma. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

New homes and addresses were discussed for Whealkate Estates. Trustee Korby motioned to offer house number 126 to the new home entering Whealkate Estates. Trustee Harkonen seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, & Trustee Balma. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

Houghton County contacted The Village Of South Range asking if we would like help from community service workers. Trustee Harkonen made a motion to accept up to 40 hours/week of community service assistance. Trustee Balma seconded the motion. Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, & Trustee Korby. Nays: None. MOTION CARRIED.

Firemen's pay and tournament expenses were discussed. Trustee Marier made a motion to raise the annual firefighters pay by \$10/month and donate \$400 for annual tournaments. Trustee Harkonen seconded the motion.

With no further business brought before the Council, Trustee Harkonen moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:50PM with support from Trustee Balma. VOTE: All ayes. MOTION CARRIED - Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Steven Dorsey, Village of South Range Clerk