

VILLAGE OF SOUTH RANGE
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2026
5:30 PM

A Special Meeting of the Village of South Range Council was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, to discuss candidates for the Director of Public Works position and the purchase of a new Christmas tree for the Village of South Range Community Hall, 45 Trimountain Avenue, South Range, MI 49963.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. The following Council members were present: President Eakin, Trustee Marier, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Korby, and Trustee Balma

Others present: Clerk Schwandt, Assistant PW Director Fountaine.

Absent: Trustee Harkonen

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS POSITION

Council discussed the two candidates recommended by the Personnel Committee for the Director of Public Works position. Discussion included the candidates' experience, qualifications, leadership abilities, and the needs of the Public Works Department.

Following discussion, Council selected Chris Lemke for the Director of Public Works position. Council noted Lemke's strong leadership and supervisory experience and discussed the value of that experience in strengthening Public Works operations and moving the department forward. Lemke indicated during his interview that he anticipated being available to begin employment in approximately three to four weeks.

Trustee Korby made a motion to offer Chris Lemke the Director of Public Works position at a starting wage of \$32.00 per hour, with an additional \$1.50 per hour increase upon obtaining the S-4 water certification and an additional \$1.50 per hour upon obtaining the L-1 wastewater certification. Trustee Marier seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Parolini, Trustee Hill

Nays: Trustee Balma Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNITY HALL CHRISTMAS TREE

Council reviewed options for replacing the Community Hall Christmas tree and discussed the size, style, lighting, cost, and anticipated delivery timeframe of the available options.

Trustee Balma made a motion to approve the purchase of a 16-foot pop-up garland Christmas tree with multicolored lights from Creative Displays at a total cost of \$4,157.27. Trustee Marier seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: President Eakin, Trustee Hill, Trustee Parolini, and Trustee Korby

Nays: None Abstain: None. MOTION CARRIED.

With no further business brought before the Council, Trustee Balma made a motion to adjourn the special meeting at 6:14 PM with support from Trustee Korby.

VOTE: All ayes. MOTION CARRIED - Meeting adjourned.