

VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

January 28, 2020

Mayor Fruhling-Voges called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

Roll call was taken.	Fruhling-Voges	Present
	Rigdon	Absent
	Painter	Present
	McCarty	Present
	Wagner	Present
	Davis	Present
	Rapp	Absent

Others in attendance: Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer, Village Clerk; Mike Peters, Village Public Works Superintendent; Julie Hendrickson, Village Office Manager; Joe Lierman, Village Attorney; Lisa and Jackie Wortman, Jack Flash owners; Denise Hatfield, Jack Flash store manager; Gypsy Bates, Dan Harshbarger, Jen Wagner, Kate Clark, Rhonda & Daron Turner, Jon & Kathy Runck, Heather Schlitz, Amy McElroy, Arveda Lunn, and Heidi Hewkin, Village residents, Molly Jackson and Rick Ingram, St. Joseph community residents; Todd Woods, Village resident and local business owner; and Nora Maberry, The St. Joseph Record.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of 1.14.20 were presented. McCarty motioned and Wagner seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote was taken: McCarty – Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Davis – Aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Painter arrived.

**BILLS:** Wagner motioned and Davis seconded to pay the bills for the Village. Roll call vote was taken: Wagner – Aye, Davis – Aye, Painter – Aye, and McCarty – Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Girl Scout Troop # 2012 introduced themselves to the Board. They are 5<sup>th</sup> graders at St. Joseph Middle School. They are Juniors in the Girl Scouts. They are requesting to improve the flower beds at Hackler Park around the gazebo and sign. They also want to put flowers around the sign at Kolb Park. They would like to do their work in the spring when the weather is nicer. The Board expressed excitement of the project and working with the Girl Scouts.

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Lisa Wortman spoke regarding Jack Flash's plan for video gaming. First, video gaming is already in the Village. Jack Flash is not asking for something that is not available in the Village. Secondly, the decision is a business decision not a moral decision. Wortman stated that the Trustees have been elected stewards for the Village, not the moral compass. The Trustees should be looking at the financial aspect of this decision.

Wortman stated Jack Flash would have the video gaming in a separate upscale room. The gaming would not be in the open store area. Wortman also stated that Jack Flash would be following all Village Ordinances as they have since the day they opened their business. As she said in the last meeting, she repeated that they run compliance checks on their own businesses to make sure their business is compliant.

A resident spoke regarding liquor being served at gas stations. She stated that this is a ridiculously bad idea. She stated that serving liquor at gas stations is encouraging drinking and driving. She also expressed wonder that the Board would even consider the idea. It is not at all in line with the image that the Village is working hard to maintain and improve. Not too long ago, the Village chose not to allow marijuana sales in the Village. One reason given for this decision was that it didn't fit in with the image of the Village. The resident questioned how does alcohol pour sales at a gas station fit into this "image".

Two other residents expressed their opinion that this is a very bad idea. They are not in favor of the alcohol or gaming at the package liquor licenses.

The manager of Jack Flash, Denise Hatfield presented a petition with over 75 residents of the Village that have signed that they would like to have video gambling at Jack Flash. The Village requested a copy of the petition but were told no.

A St. Joseph community member said that she had concerns regarding gambling and alcohol being at the gas stations. She feels that alcohol and gambling are addictions. She said that kids ride their bikes and walk to the gas stations and grocery stores to buy things. If alcohol and gaming are in the establishments, she would not feel this was an appropriate place for the children.

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Another St. Joseph community member expressed concern regarding what the size of an individual serving would be.

Wortman stated that there are several sizes of individual drinks that are 12 ounces, 16 ounces, 24 ounces as well as 40 ounces. She noted that the Village can put in the ordinance the specifics of what an individual drink will be. She also noted that the Village can put all the requirements in the ordinance that the Village wants. Jack Flash will meet all the requirements of the ordinance as they have since they opened.

Wagner motioned and McCarty seconded to not move forward with the addition of the pour license with a package liquor license. Roll call vote was taken: Painter – Nay, McCarty – Aye, Wagner – Aye, Davis – Nay. The vote was tied so the Mayor needed to cast the tie-breaking vote. Fruhling-Voges voted Aye. The motion passed 3-2.

**MAYOR'S DESK:**

Fruhling-Voges gave an update on the January 24<sup>th</sup> court hearing. The former employee pled guilty and restitution of \$ 16,000 was made within 48 hours,

Fruhling-Voges gave a legislative update. Chapin Rose is pushing through legislation that would rid us of the GATA requirement. It is a lot of work for small communities. Of communities do not have staff that knows how to deal with the requirements. This legislation would mean that communities would no longer have to be compliant just to get their distributions of State funds.

Fruhling-Voges discussed goal setting session dates with the Trustees and staff. It was decided that the goal setting session would be held on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 at the Municipal Building.

**FINANCE:** McElroy-Smetzer reported that budget work will begin soon. She stated that the Village was beginning the last quarter of the year. New budget sheets will be available in the next week.

**SANITARY SEWER:** Fruhling-Voges reported that most of the OSHA work has been completed. An extension has been granted for the work not yet completed.

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**PARKS & RECREATION:** Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY:** Davis reported that he would like to host a thank you lunch for the employees on a quarterly basis. He feels that they work very hard and this would be a way to express the Board's appreciation.

**BUILDING & GROUNDS:** McCarty wants to have a meeting on looking at a new dump truck. Hackler Park will hopefully be done this weekend.

**STREETS & ALLEYS:** Peters reported that the Village has a very large drainage problem in the field behind Proctor Lane. Drainage District #6 is working on the problem with the Village.

**ATTORNEY'S DESK:** Lierman updated the Board on the process to recover costs for cleaning up the property on Monroe Street.

Fruhling-Voges reported that the Village employee handbook would be updated regarding marijuana.

**CLERK'S DESK:** Nothing to report.

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Nothing to report.

At 9:00, Wagner motioned and Davis seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.

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Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer  
Village Clerk