President Powers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Annual Audit Presentation (Doug Vredeveld)** - Vredeveld discussed the results of the Village financial audit and expound on the graphs provided in the report.

   Powers questioned the measures in place to prevent embezzlement or fraud during the invoice entry process. Vredeveld explained the general controls in place. Burns explained the invoice system process and the segregation of duties that is in place to prevent a single individual from having sole custody of a transaction.

   Powers indicated concern regarding the general fund balance being too high. Burns explained that the funds have not been utilized because it will be used to match the grants that have been applied for to address high water damage around the Village. Vredeveld clarified that the Pension Liability was documented as of December 31st and would likely be much higher next June. Powers and Hinga discussed the contribution rate for pensions and potential future changes in the amount.

2. **Update on Short-term Rental Ordinance (Cassie Hoisington)** - Hoisington discussed the Short-term rental committee and request a 3-month extension of the moratorium, until February 21st, 2023, so that the delays attributed to scheduling complications could be addressed.

   Council considered the request before placing it on the agenda for further discussion at the Meeting.

3. **Traffic Study Results (Pete LaMourie)** – LaMourie explained that the assessment of the Lake-Leonard-Grandview intersection involved a traffic count, during peak travel hours, as well as the crash data spanning the past 5 years. Based on this information it was determined that from an empirical standpoint the data collected does not reflect a need for many changes. LaMourie discussed possible solutions ranging from new signage to the conversion of the intersection to a more standard geometric design.

   Council discussed the best course of action to pursue and decided to refresh the crosswalk on Lake in the spring and add additional signage.

4. **Development Agreement Extension 209 W. Exchange** – Burns notified Council that American Repair Maintenance (ARM) is seeking an extension on the development agreement with for the property located at 209 W. Exchange. The original deadline was December 31, 2023 and they are seeking an extension until December 31, 2025.

   Powers questioned the DDA’s stance on the extension, since the DDA has not spoken on this extension, this item will not be placed on the consent agenda so that their recommendation could be taken into consideration.

5. **USDA Project Update (Wally Delamater)** - Delamater updated Council on the infrastructure project list that is being funded by the $7.2 million borrowed from USDA Funds. Delamater discussed the State mandate that lead service lines be replaced. He stated that while the Village does not have lead lines, there are lead gooseneck connector pieces that are addressed in the mandate. Delamater discussed details of the USDA funds and the contractual delay resulting in a delay on receiving the required bonds to pursue the documented infrastructure projects.

   Council discussed details of the Lead Service Line requirements and how to best utilize the USDA funds.
6. **Purchase of Kage Pusher (Wally Delamater)** - Delamater discussed demonstrating a Kage snow pusher during the 2022/2023 winter; however, the Kage snow pusher is only available to be leased or purchased. A lease would cost for $500/month for up to 5 months ($2500), while it can be purchased for $9,500.

   Burns notified Council that Sullivan did not recommend that the Village sign the lease and spoke on the alternate option of purchasing the snow pusher.

   Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of purchasing the Kage Snow Pusher before placing the purchase of the snow pusher on the consent agenda.

7. **DPW Truck Purchase (Wally Delamater)** - Delamater detailed the delays regarding the order of a new Department of Public Works truck through the MiDeal purchasing program, following an abrupt cancellation of the original order that was approved during the October 2021 Council meeting. Delamater explained that the dealership projects that the price of the truck has increased since the original order was placed.

   Council discussed the projected increased budget and appearance for the new truck.

   The purchase of a DPW Truck through the MiDeal purchasing program for an amount not to exceed $58,000 was added to the consent agenda.

8. **Decorative Light Pole Replacements (Wally Delamater)** - Delamater discussed replacement options for the 8 decorative light poles that have been struck by vehicles over the past couple of years.

   Council considered the replacement of the 8 decorative light poles.

   The purchase of 8 replacement light poles from Kendall Electric in an amount not to exceed $28,299 was added to the consent agenda.

9. **Budget Amendments (Marv Hinga)** – Hinga spoke on 4 budget adjustments necessary to accommodate expenditures approved by the Council and to facilitate continued operations of area parks.

   Council accessed the amendments proposed for the 2022/2023 budget.

   Approval of the budget amendments for fiscal year 2022/2023 was added to the consent agenda.

10. **Donation to the Art in the Park Fund** – Burns spoke on the donor who wished to donate $2000 to the art in the park fund. Burns explained that the donor has asked to work with the art curating committee and the high school to incorporate more art and utilize the students’ talent around the Village.

    Council placed acceptance of the donation for Art in the Park, allowing the donor to work with SLHS art students, on the consent agenda.

11. **Annual Board & Committee Appointments** – Burns discussed the open seats on various Boards and the applicants recommended by their respective Board to fill those vacancies. Burns also commented on the need for Council liaisons for the Historic Conservation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

    Council reviewed the recommended applicants for the Board and Committee vacancies.

    | Board                                      | Name               | Term    |
    |--------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
    | Parks & Recreation                         | Megan Doss         | 11/2025 |
    | Parks & Recreation                         | Didier Couvelair   | 11/2025 |
    | Historic Conservation Commission           | David Dye          | 11/2025 |
    | Historic Conservation Commission (Council Liaison) | Patrick Roggenbau |         |
Powers sought a Council Liaison for the Zoning Board of appeals. Duer volunteered to be the Council liaison for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Approval of the proposed Board and Committee Appointments was added to the consent agenda.

12. Resolution of Support Coastal Grant – Burns discussed the details and benefits of the Grant and how it would provide funds to address the high-water damage that occurred around the Village. Burns continued to explain that funds to match the Grant would be required and that the DDA would cover the locations within its boundary, the rest would need to be taken from the general fund, resulting in equal payments of $120,000 from each account.

Council accessed the proposed grant application and its financial impact.

Approval for the submission of a Water Resources Division grant application was added to the consent agenda.

13. EV Charging Amendment – Burns explained have been delays regarding the DC fast chargers located on S. Cutler St because Consumer’s Energy has not yet approved the allocation for that particular grant.

Council placed approval for an amendment to the EV Charging agreement on the consent agenda.

14. TDS Contract (Marv Hinga)- Hinga spoke on TDS decommissioning copper phone lines at Village Hall and converting to a digital phone service. Hinga explained that this conversion would reduce the Village phone payments to approximately $75/month from the current $105/month.

Council added approval of the digital phone service contract with TDS to the consent agenda.

15. Employee Assistance Program – Burns explained that the Village does not currently have an employee assistance program (EAP) in place to assist with the procurement and financing of mental health for employees. Burns stated that is seeking quotes for services for an EAP program.

Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of an EAP program for Village employees and determined that it will be revisited in the future once more comprehensive information is available.

16. Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds (Marv Hinga)- Hinga spoke on the previously posted notice of intent to issue $3.4 million in water supply bonds, however the USDA finance water improvements are now at $4.2 million; resulting in another notice of intent to be posted with this information to remain in compliance with the State of Michigan requirements.

Council placed approval of the resolution to purchase, acquire and construct improvements to the water supply system and to public notice of intent to issue revenue bonds to the consent agenda.

17. Waste Hauler Licensing Update – Burns presented a PowerPoint detailing the information that has been gathered thus far regarding the benefits of a single waste hauler and a comprehensive explanation of the difference between monopoly vs. oligopoly structures. Burns informed Council that she had consulted with Dr. Paul Isely, the Associate Dean for undergraduate Business studies at Grand Valley State University, to ensure that the information being provided was factual. Burns detailed the survey process that was distributed on postcards to Village Residents and how that information will be complied and considered in making a decision.

18. Communications-
   - Complaint – Gaskill
   - Compliment – Dye
• Inquiry - Cleghorn
• GHACF Reports LCC

19. Minutes – Minutes of the October 10, 2022 Work Session and October 17, 2022 regular meeting were attached for review.

20. Public Comment –

Debra Holdmann, 214 Douglas Ct, (2:19:01) – Expressed dissatisfaction with the information provided at the community engagement event and the fact that her specific question was not answered. She asked how to stop the Village moving forward with implementing a single waste hauler. She felt residents should have a choice in the haulers they are responsible for paying for.

Nancy Girvin, 311 N Division, - Questioned the formatting of the online questionnaire that was made accessible to residents and the validity of the results it provides because she was not able to select multiple answers that more accurately described her waste hauler usage.

Kristen Epplett, 511 E Savidge, - Explained that she was a longtime Village resident that has always used Kuerth’s Disposal for her trash and does not understand why changing to a single waste hauler is being discussed. She expressed concerns regarding an increased cost of service if a single waste hauler is selected and that potential economic impact.

Renee Vanderark, 221 Barber St, - Explained that she utilizes bag service, where she pays per bag instead of a base rate and how she would lose if Republic was selected as the single waste hauler. She detailed her poor experience with Republic and expressed her praise for Kuerth’s Disposal Service.

Kris Tober, 623 Summer St, -Expressed a desire to see more of an effort to Go Green instead of looking into waste haulers; and that the decision should be postponed until a future date.

Leonard Peck, 205 South St, - Questioned Burns on whether or not she planned to end the Village leaf pickup because if the Village is “following Grand Haven” that is a service Grand Haven has discontinued.

Lynn Gleason, 624 River St, - Spoke on her search into each waste hauler’s recycling program. She also detailed a positive experience with Kuerth’s Disposal service during a time when she needed assistance.

Ellen Peck, 205 South St, - spoke on behalf of an elderly neighbor, who utilizes bag service, and the concerns regarding the Village switching to a Hauler that does not provide this service. She requested that Council take the elderly into consideration when making this decision.

Christine Hunt, 214 Exchange, explained that she is a customer of Republic Disposal and the difficulties of getting into contact with the service to address missed recycling pickups or any other concerns with the service.

Kathryn Maki, 708 Summer St, stated that she was pleased with the recent turnout of minutes and the increased informational communications provided by the Village. She spoke on the Lead service line replacements and discussed her observations regarding the decorative light pole budget and installation. She concluded by expressing her support of an a la carte trash disposal service.

Alanna Van Hoeven, 527 Grandview, stated that she is a customer of Republic, however she does not believe that the freedom of choice should be taken from residents. She also discussed the traffic study and compared the impact of garbage trucks on the street with school busses. She concluded by expressing concern that a single waste hauler could set a precedent for changes in other services in the future.
Jennifer Schippers, 363 S Lake Ave, - Explained that she is a Republic customer and her discontent with the service they provided. She asserted that Village residents should have a choice in their waste hauler.

Doubek, 732 Summer, asserted that if Republic is selected as the single waste hauler, that the other two providers have expressed an unwillingness to return to the area, resulting in a monopoly.

Russell Boersma, Arrowaste, stated that people chose their service because of the quality of service. He acknowledged that if they were not selected, they would probably not be back to bid again due to the expenses involved in retrieving their existing containers and the potential need to redistribute them again in the future. He also explained that he didn’t understand the RFP. He concluded by stating that the survey the Village provided residents was not straightforward and that may have caused some confusion.

Jacquie Kunnen, Kuerth’s Disposal, explained that Kuerth’s bid was also a la carte and that the RFP did not explicitly state that an all-inclusive quote was required. She requested that clarification be provided on the Village’s website and social media. She also expressed the desire for the Village’s survey to be more straightforward with a question asking residents if they wanted a single waste hauler or not.

21. Adjournment- There being no further business, Village Council adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Mark Powers, Village President                          Jordan Schwing, Deputy Clerk