

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 7 p.m. in the evening in the east-end conference room of the Hillman Community Center at 24220 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hillman, MI 49746. Present: President Dave Hornbacher, Trustees: Stephen Orlandi, Thomas Bouchey, Velma Brown. Absent: Johnathon Smith. Employees: Dave Post, Jan McMurray, Brenda South, John Burr. Visitors: Judy Nichols.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Hornbacher.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Brown to approve the agenda as presented. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Brown and supported by Trustee Bouchey to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023, Council meeting as written. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Orlandi to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 36286 through 36313. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

John Burr, DPW Supervisor addressed the Council regarding a new snowplow needed for the plow truck. John reported that he is currently waiting for a new estimate as the one he had was from last spring. John went on to say that the old plow is worn out, the springs were replaced at a cost of \$500, it was suggested to table this issue until the next meeting when the updated estimate will be available.

President Hornbacher brought the issue of the Chamber of Commerce Banquet and had the ballots for nominating Business of the Year, Person of the Year, and Non-Profit Organization of the Year. The dinner/banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24th, a table of 8 is \$200 so the Village will purchase a table, possibly splitting the cost with the radio station. The Council decided to nominate Hillman Community Radio for Non-profit Organization (Community Service), Widell Industries, Business of the Year, and Lori Jacobs for Person of the Year.

Manager Dave Post reported that the paperwork for the blight grant properties is done, he now must contact the utility companies involved to get them capped off.

The first reimbursement was requested by Huron Engineering. More points are needed for the Passport Grant, a resolution for \$150,000 but items will be added so we will be submitting a resolution for \$175,000. Points were not given because it was thought the Village had not received any grants, this was not correct, there was confusion with Hillman Township, 40 points were added with this correction. Still no news about the SPARK Grant, but we will not count on this grant. The Rural Readiness Grant is being worked on by NEMCOG. The annual meeting for NEMCOG will be held at the old BJ's Restaurant on October 20th, the 2024 schedule will be discussed. Included in the agenda was an estimate from Elmers for subbase and gravel of the walkway/matchup with the Township (extension of bike path) \$9300 along with the paving by Bolens.

A motion was made by President Hornbacher and supported by Trustee Bouchey to approve Elmers estimate for subbase, gravel and hydroseed to move the path over to match up with Hillman Township walkway spending \$9300 to include paving by Bolens and hydroseed. All in favor. Motion carried. All in favor. Motion carried.

Manager Dave Post went on to report that the DNR did a presentation on forest management, a 10-year plan. It was suggested to hold meetings in other areas other than Gaylord. There are other areas containing large parcels of state land who will benefit. Counties have a waste management plan, they must renew it. EGLE will require a plan and if the county does not put a plan in place EGLE will do the plan and the county will have to implement it. The county will have 36 months to complete the plan. **President Hornbacher** suggested sending this information to the Bboard of Commissioners. Julie Lowe will host a meeting on October 12th at 1 p.m. regarding Brownfields.

Trustee Brown reported that the new storm door was put up on the terminal building. **President Hornbacher** asked DPW Supervisor John Burr if the furnace at the terminal building had been serviced. John stated that he had not checked the furnace as yet, but the windsock has been replaced. John asked about the comment in an article in the Tribune about homeless people living in Emerick Park. The deputy that attended the last meeting reported some "unrest" in the park involving some homeless people living in the park, it ended up in the Tribune.

President Hornbacher reported lights out at both pocket parks and the bridge lights are out again. **Manager Dave Post** reported that he had issued 1 zoning permit for a storage building. The shower heads at Emerick Park were replaced,

this had not been done since they were installed in the 1990's. The porta johns at the park were picked up.

Trustee Orlandi reported for the Hillman Area Fire/Ambulance Board. The fire truck is still being assembled. EMS reported runs up 73 over last years' runs. Grant money is available for EMS training. A \$40,000 grant from the State of Michigan allows the fire department to order new basic packs, paying for them up front, they will get them within 2 weeks. **Trustee Orlandi** reported a hole in the asphalt by A-1 Woods and Waters on First Street.

Manager Dave Post reported that EGLE will be setting the parameters for PH and Phosphates levels. EGLE will be giving points for violations if reports are not in when due, the lab gets backed up and we have to wait sometimes 8-10 days for results but these points will continue to be given daily. A request to eliminate river testing was submitted since EGLE will not let us use river water. The sewer license for discharge is due in April of next year, Huron Engineering will do the application for us.

Judy Nichols reported that she did not have the estimate for the bathroom repairs at the mill, she is waiting for them. Judy asked if there were free smoke detectors available from the fire department. **President Hornbacher** explained that the free smoke detectors were for residences only, but Ace Hardware would have detectors available for a low cost. Manager Dave Post will be a judge for the Apple Pie Contest at the mill during Apple Fest.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Bouchey to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer