

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, February 7, 2023d at 7 p.m. in the evening in the east-end conference room of the Hillman Community Center at 24220 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hillman, Michigan. Present: President Dave Hornbacher, Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South. Trustees: Velma Brown, Stephen Orlandi, Thomas Bouchey, Johnathon Smith. Employees: Jan McMurray, Dave Post. Visitors: Judi Nichols (BCM), Deputy Arnett (Sheriff Department), Dennis Villeneuve, Heidi Villeneuve (Northern Deer Processing).

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: Brown, Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South corrected the minutes of the January 17th Council meeting. The date in the minutes was January 18th and should have been January 17th. **A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Smith to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023 Council meeting with the correction of the date. Yeas: Smith, Bouchey, Orlandi, Brown. Nays: none, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Brown to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 35784 through 35813. Yeas: Brown, Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

Deputy Arnett did not have anything to report to the Council and there were no questions for the deputy so she was thanked for attending and left to go back on duty.

President Hornbacher introduced Mr. Dennis Villeneuve to the Council stating that he is interested in opening a meat processing/slaughterhouse in the industrial park. This type of business is allowed through a Special Use Permit. The main concern is disposal of scraps, carcasses, and blood into the Village sewer system. **Mr. Villeneuve** explained that all trim, blood, carcasses are picked up 2 times a week by GFL Disposal. Lime and Bleach are used in the dumpsters regularly to prevent smell. All kills will be done inside the building. **Manager Dave Post** explained that since the elementary school yard is across the street from the

building that is being purchased it would be an issue to have livestock outside. Discussion turned to the Village lagoon system and what amount of refuse would be allowed to be disposed of. **DPW Supervisor John Burr** stated that he will discuss these issues with his contact person from EGLE prior to the Planning Commission Public Hearing. The next step will be a public hearing held by the Planning Commission and Mr. Villeneuve must submit his plan on processing and disposal of waste, processes of killing of livestock and storage. Mr. Villeneuve asked that this meeting be held soon so that he doesn't lose his opportunity to purchase the building. The Clerk will set the meeting and notify all property owners within 300 feet of the proposed site, publish the meeting notice. The meeting will be set within the next 4 weeks so that a purchase agreement can be negotiated.

Manager Dave Post reported a webinar by EGLE on Wednesday, February 8th at 1:00 p.m. for those Council members who would like to attend. The annual Planning Commission report has been completed and given to the Council. Attempts at setting up an account for receipt of Federal Funds has been anything but easy, Manager Dave Post stated that he is still trying to establish a SAM number. Work is being done on the conservation easements on the property bordering the power plant property. The former Elkie property is not mentioned in the initial report, Huron Engineering and the Village attorney will be contacted about this issue. The culvert project has been put out for bids, there has been some question on whether a cement lining could be used, the answer is yes. The Village of Hillman had an agreement with the Montmorency County Road Commission about maintaining Lowell Street. The County continued maintenance on it after the Village annexed this area, however they had recently decided to terminate the agreement and turn over maintenance to the Village of Hillman, this was done by Resolution.

President Hornbacher brought to the Council the issue of cost-sharing the gas installation at the Edwards property in the Industrial Park. This was offered during the process of his purchasing the property. Money will be taken from the HELP Fund to assist in putting in this infrastructure along Industrial Park Drive, this will be an additional benefit for others purchasing property for business purposes.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Smith to cost-share \$2000 for natural gas installation at the Joshua Edwards property along Industrial Park Drive. All in favor. Motion carried.

Manager Dave Post reported the Airport License arrived at the office and was given to Airport Manager Mark Melligen. The next issue was online reservations for Emerick Park Campground. Mr. Jim Young was consulted and he said that it would cost about \$1000 to set up and another \$250 for maintenance of the system. This would require continued monitoring on a laptop or tablet to see what sites are reserved. Tyler Technologies, the software company used for the water/sewer system, and online payments can be set up through them as well.

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South reported that BS&A software consultants told her that taxes could be collected online as well through a 3rd party payer like Paypal or Venmo. These options are all under further investigation and Park Manager Johnathon Smith will contact Jim Young for further information, Rates for park rentals was another topic mentioned, the Council decided to raise rates as follows: Tent: \$15, Water/Elec. \$25, Full \$30, monthly rate \$550, Family \$75, Dump fees \$5.

President Hornbacher reported the Hillman Area Fire and Ambulance Board met and the decision was made to give the EMS Coordinator a Credit Card with a limit of \$1000 this will be giving the coordinator more authority. EMS reported 56 runs, fire department had 10 runs. Smoke detectors have been installed in many homes in the fire district. The next issue was the renewal of the tractor lease from Dons' Ford Tractor for \$100 per month, **A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Bouchey to renew the lease for a tractor from Don's Ford Tractor for \$100 per month. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.**

Trustee Orlandi reported that the town clock is working, lights on one span of the bridge are not working, it was reported that this may be a connector issue. The street light that had been damaged by a vehicle has been ordered but it will take 4-6 weeks to get here, however the DPW had a reserve pole and it has been put up. The electrician has been called and they are waiting for him to do the electrical work.

Judy Nichols reported events for 2023 sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. The Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 1st, 2023 will be a joint effort between Medilodge and the Chamber of Commerce. Plans are to have it begin at Emerick Park and progress along the alley from the Brush Creek Mill to Medilodge. There was discussion on safety and whether it would be wise to cross the bridge with so many children. **DPW Supervisor John Burr** suggested starting the egg hunt at the Brush Creek Mill and to stay on the alley rather than cross the bridge on State

Street. **Clerk Brenda South** suggested that there would be liability to the Village of Hillman if anyone was hurt.

Water rates will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Bouchey to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer