

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, August 15, 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, Michigan. Present: President Dave Hornbacher, Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South. Trustees: Stephen Orlandi, Thomas Bouchey, Johnathon Smith, Velma Brown. Employees: Dave Post. Absent: Jan McMurray. Visitors: Cheri Eggett (Montmorency County Treasurer) Yvonne Swager (Montmorency County Tribune), Deputy Josh Smith (Montmorency County Sheriff Department).

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

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2023, Council meeting as written. Yeas: Brown, Smith, Bouchey, Orlandi. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Brown to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 36186 through 36225. Yeas: Bouchey, Orlandi, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

Deputy Smith reported to the Council that there have been multiple calls to Emerick Park during this summer for loud noise complaints, underage drinking and drugs. Campers have called complaining about younger kids playing loud music, some campers have left the campground while officers were there due to the noise and disturbances. The deputy requested that the Village review their ordinances and to convey to them who would be able to enforce rules/removal in the park. **Manager Dave Post** stated that he will check with the Village Attorney about this, but it was thought that the Park Manager would have authority to remove unruly campers. It was reported by the Clerk that the sheriff department has a copy of the Villages Code of Ordinances that were updated in 2013. The Council thanked Deputy Smith for his service to our community.

Manager Dave Post reported that during budget time this year the Council budgeted money from the HELP Fund to pay off some bonds. Dave asked that this

money be used for the Blight Remediation until the grant money comes in, then reimburse the HELP Fund, then pay off the bonds early next budget year. It was agreeable with the Council to do this so that the remediation process can begin soon.

A motion was made by President Hornbacher and supported by Trustee Brown to use budgeted monies for bond pay-off from HELP Fund for Blight Program until reimbursed from State Grant. All in favor. Motion carried.

Manager Dave Post reported that the State Land Bank Authority will require environmental processes that will need expert assistance to perform due diligence. Dave asked that the Council consider hiring Huron Engineering to assist with this Blight grant. **A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Smith to hire Huron Engineering to assist with the Blight Grant Process. Yeas: Smith, Brown, Bouchey, Orlandi. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.**

Manager Dave Post reported that he will be attending a NEMCOG meeting in Gaylord on Thursday if any Council member would like to go with him, they are welcome. Trustee Tom Bouchey said he would like to go. A resident stopped into the office last week requesting the Village to remove a car from his property left behind by his renter. The gentleman was told that the Village does not go on private property to remove anything, that would be his responsibility. The gentleman requested that a letter be sent to the renter previously, but no letter was sent. The gentleman said he would attend the Council meeting to talk with them about this issue, he did not show up, but the car was removed. Several Council members suggested sending a letter to the landowner informing him of the Village position on this situation. The Act 51 report has been submitted, it is getting harder to access the website, a complaint was made via e-mail regarding the difficulties experienced while filing the report. Habitat for Humanity will be purchasing lots 3 and 16 in Orchard Pines and now the Village has purchased lot 24, all with the intention of building houses at some point in the future. There is a scheduling problem for keeping regular office hours during the week of Sept 5th-8th. **Manager Dave Post** requested that he be allowed to bring Park Manager Johnathon Smith into the office and train him to cover the office in the afternoon of the 6th the 7th all day, and ½ day on the 8th. The Council agreed to allow Johnathon Smith to cover the office hours during these days. The permit for the 2nd Street culvert has been resubmitted. There is an issue with Duckweed growing at the lagoons, it has been suggested to purchase a “skimmer” and pumping the duckweed into an area surrounded by a “berm” to allow the duckweed to dry out.

The Council asked Manager Dave Post to get more information on the process, each Council member was given information on the skimmer, along with the cost, a decision will be made at the next meeting of the Council.

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South reported that she had an issue with the MDOT Parade Permit for the VJ Day parade. The permit was filed 29 days prior to the event but the permit did not get issued until the day before the parade, it would not be a big issue except that the DPW must schedule personnel for covering the parade and if a permit is not issued there is no parade. President Hornbacher stated that he will talk with the gentleman who issues the permits and see if there is something we need to do differently to avoid these types of delays. There is a dead tree in the alleyway behind the Linesmans' on East Second Street, if the tree falls it will land on their garage. **Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South** reported that taxes have been coming steadily.

Trustee Velma Brown reported for the airport, Manager Mark Melligen asked if there is a need for monthly meetings with hangar owners, some who never attend, it was decided to have quarterly meetings rather than every month.

Trustee Johnathon Smith/Park Manager reported that the park was very busy during the VJ Day weekend, the bandshell was well attended throughout the day, The fireworks were well attended as well and there were no significant problems.

Manager Dave Post reported 1 zoning permit for an accessory building.

Trustee Stephen Orlandi reported that the new firetruck did not arrive before the parade as hoped, there will be a fireboard meeting at the end of the month. All streetlights are working, the bridge lights are working too. **Manager Dave Post** said that the 3-phase installation has not been completed, the schedule for water testing has been sent and must be completed by the end of September. The middle lagoon work should be completed this week and then we wait for the inspection to be done. More information regarding the skimmer/duckweed issue at the lagoons will be provided at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Orlandi to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer

