

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 6 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. Trustees: Stephen Orlandi, Thomas Bouchey, Johnathon Smith. Absent: Velma Brown. Employees: Dave Post, John Burr, Jan McMurray, and Brenda South. Visitors: Deputy Nick Breed, Judy Nichols, Rick Hopp, Jacob Looze.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance and was called to order at 6 p.m. by President Hornbacher.

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

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Bouchey to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2023, Council meeting as written. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 36489 through 36503. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

DPW Supervisor John Burr reported that sand and gravel saved from the improvements made in the walkway project along East Progress Street can be used in the sewer extension on Jonathon Street project if the Council decides to do this. John presented several bids for the project. Elmer's original bid was for \$17,000 but deducting the cost of sand and gravel will bring their cost down to \$14,400. E&M submitted a bid for \$12,800, and Abledinger's bid was for \$10,165 (add the \$2500 for sand and gravel) it would increase the bid to \$12,665.00. The discussion began for whether the Council wanted to extend the sewer, this is a significant cost for 1 home. After some discussion it was decided that the Village would be willing to extend the sewer with the agreement that the property owner would share half the cost and give an easement agreement for utilities.

A motion was made by President Hornbacher and supported by Trustee Orlandi to extend the sewer line on Jonathon Street with the property owner sharing half the cost plus the \$1000 buy-in to system plus time and material

and an easement for the water line if the survey shows the easement is off. All in favor. Motion carried.

Manager Dave Post reported that the Passport agreement has been signed but he is waiting for a clearer map that must also be signed and sent in, Huron Engineering is working on getting this to him. There have been 2 individuals inquiring about a Help Loan to purchase the Hillman Laundry. The bid documents for the 2 houses to be torn down on Pine Street is extensive. **Manager Dave Post** asked the Council if they want to include a bond requirement or take a check to hold until work is completed to the agreement. Huron Engineering would verify the funds for the check. Dave asked if they wanted to set a time frame for completion of the work, the Council said yes, these stipulations will be added to the bid documents which may be completed by the end of the month. The next issue was the contract for garbage service, the current contract expires the end of March. The Council had no real complaints about the service, the company may want a slight increase in prices. **Manager Dave Post** will contact P.A.C. Sanitation to see what the increase may be before budget meetings begin. The Recreation Plan for the Village of Hillman expires this year. NEMCOG sent a proposal for the Village of Hillman and Hillman Township who partnered 5 years ago on the last updated plan. The Council said to forward the quote to Hillman Township Clerk for their next meeting. The cost for updating was \$6500 or \$3250 each.

Mr. Rick Hopp and his son-in-law arrived at the meeting and DPW Supervisor John Burr explained the plans for the sewer extension and **Manager Dave Post** explained the terms of the agreement, they decided to go with the extension. The two agreed with the cost and easement they will continue to work with DPW Supervisor John Burr and **Manager Dave Post** to get this done.

Secretary/Bookkeeper Jan McMurray asked the Council to get their requests ready for next year's budget, she will be getting the budget ready for meetings in February. **Manager Dave Post** suggested Trustee Johnathon Smith and President Hornbacher meet with him about the new Emerick Park Ordinance. The 80/20 Insurance for employees will expire soon that will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Deputy Breed did not have anything to report, the Council thanked him and he left the meeting.

President Hornbacher reported Hillman EMS had 51 runs for the month and 622 for the year, up 100 from last year. The Fire Department reported 8 fire runs, they are selling the front-line pumper truck, and passed their 2024 budget.

Trustee Orlandi bridge lights are still out on one side of the bridge.

DPW Supervisor John Burr reported some changes in water testing requirements, he will begin to identify the lead-ins to homes which has to be completed by October 2024. John said that he will need to acquire a pipe locator, this will make the process faster per home.

Judy Nichols reported that the Brush Creek Mill is closed during January and February for maintenance, they are working on new flooring for the bathrooms and other repairs. The subject of replacing the lights on the mill was discussed, these new bulbs can be purchased at Home Depot or WalMart, they are the common C-9 outdoor lights. **Judy** asked if there was anything preventing the Mill from serving alcohol. It was determined that the Village did not have any policy against it but she should check their lease agreement. **Trustee Orlandi** asked if the alcohol would be kept inside the building, this is something they could include in their rental agreement with the individual. **Judy** asked to borrow orange cones for the next food pantry give-away, traffic is a problem.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Bouchey to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer