

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the east-end conference room of the Hillman Community Center at 24220 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hillman, MI 49746. Present: President Dave Hornbacher. Trustees: Velma Brown, Steve Orlandi, Tom Bouchey and Jonathan Smith. Absent: None. Employees: Dave Post, Emma Niswonger and John Burr. Visitors: Ron Floer and Becky Rivard with Huron Engineering. Clerk: Ann Williams.

President Hornbacher opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Smith made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to approve the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Bouchey made a motion and was supported by Trustee Orlandi to approve the minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Smith made a motion and was supported by Trustee Bouchey to pay the bills including the add-ons and also adding \$50 to Dave Hornbacher for the payment of attending the planning commission meeting with check numbers 38189-38227.

Dave Post shared a copy of the contact with PAC for residential trash removal. It ends March 27, 2026, and wants the Council to be aware of possible changes coming up.

Dave Post went over the Resolution 2026-01 to Adopt Hard Cap Employer/Employee Health Care Cost Option as set for in 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act.

President Hornbacher made a motion and was supported by Trustee Orlandi to Adopt Resolution 2026-01 Hard Cap Employer/Employee Health Care Cost Option as set for in 2011 Public Act 152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act. Roll Call Vote ensued: Hornbacher, Aye. Brown, Aye. Orlandi, Aye. Bouchey, Aye. Smith, Aye. Nays: Zero. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2026-01
VILLAGE OF HILLMAN**

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT HARD CAP OPTION EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE COST OPTION AS SET FOR IN 2011 PUBLIC ACT 152, THE PUBLICLY FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT.

WHEREAS 2011 Public Act 152 (the ACT”) was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011.

WHEREAS the ACT contains three options for complying with the requirements of the ACT.

WHEREAS the three options are as follows:

- 1) Sections 3 - “Hard Caps” Option limits a public employer’s total annual health care cost for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the ACT;
- 2) Section 4 – “80%/20%” Option – limits a public employer’s total annual share of total annual health care costs to not more that 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the governing body.
- 3) Section 8 – “Exemption” Option – a local unit of government, as defined in the ACT, may exempt itself from the requirements of the ACT by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has decided to adopt the Hard Caps option as its choice of compliance under the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE Governing Body of the Village of Hillman elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the Hard Caps option for the medical benefit plan coverage year March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Its: Ann Williams, Village Clerk/Treasurer

Date: _____

President Hornbacher made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to make the following proposed budget amendments:

- 1. To increase Audit fees from \$5,500.00 to \$9,400.00**
- 2. To increase the Disability and Life Insurance premiums from \$2,200.00 to \$2,800.00**
- 3. To increase Equipment rentals from \$4,000.00 to \$12,000.00 to accommodate expenses incurred during March 2025 ice storm**
- 4. To increase the Engineering Consultant from \$10,000.00 to \$21,000.00 for Category B road grant expenses**
- 5. To increase the Engineering Consultant expense from \$30,000.00 to \$85,000.00 to accommodate for increased grant work**
- 6. To increase communication expense from \$5,500.00 to \$10,400.00 to accommodate increased phone rates**
- 7. To increase the Managers salary from \$31,341.00 to \$33,425.00**
- 8. To increase the Park Manager Wages from \$17,576.00 to \$19,065.00**
- 9. To increase Clerk wages from \$8,939.00 to \$9,189.00**
- 10. To increase Treasurer wages from \$3,225.00 to \$3,775.00**
- 11. To increase Deputy Clerk wages from \$8,260.00 to \$10,510.00**
- 12. To increase Chief Executive wages from \$9,600.00 to \$13,500.00**

All in favor. Motion carried.

Becky Rivard with Huron Engineering reported the following updates:

1. Well updates are that the high school signed off on the easement. We still have to have an archaeological historical dig and once approved the well drilling will go to bids. We are still waiting on EGLE approval also. But overall we are on track and on-time.
2. Category B Grant is in a holding pattern, and bids will begin in the spring. New culvert on Elizabeth Street are on hold due to weather and funding.
3. Grants for next year that she will be looking out for use are Safety Grants on 1st Street by the river installing a revetement wall and guardrail.
4. EGLE and DNR monies. She will be watching for these high-water grants.
5. In June there should be well protection grants, it serves to add points to the state drinking water revolving fund.
6. New meters for the water department would be a state water revolving fund and she will be on the lookout for this also.

7. She will be looking for walkable funding or trust funds monies for replacement options for the 35-40 year-old bridge across the river on the West Riverside Drive.

Dave Post reported that FEMA is asking us to re-sign on their site with more security. Emma already has this done so we can do a final closeout. There was a planning commission meeting, and we went over goals and objectives and voted on a more streamlined Master Plan.

Dave also reports that the MML is asking for approval of the increased valuation of the Village properties. He suggested we increase office equipment on the budget. In 2015 the Village received a permit for adding campsites. The electrical was completed and inspected. We need to present EGLE with an affidavit.

He informed the Council there needs to be budget meeting next month. The Council set the budget meetings for Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.. Dave is also working on the annual report of the planning commission.

Emma wanted to make the Council aware that included in the bills were 2 textbooks that her school PELL grant did not cover for her college courses.

Trustee Brown reported that brush at the airport was burned, but more needs to be burned. She asked can we buy the land in order to cut the trees. We still need 5 lights fixed that are not working. Transformers have been ordered to repair the lights. On the northeast side of the airport there is 50-60 foot wide area with saplings that need to be cut down. This area belongs to the Village.

President Hornbacher reported that a dozer is needed to crush the brush piles before we attempt to burn again. Rental of such runs approximately \$2,600 for 8 hours.

Dave Post reported that Mike is working on picnic tables for the park. Mike will be gone for the end of February. We have a couple zoning permits that will be issued and we are updating our zoning ordinance chapters.

Trustee Orlandi reported that one of the lights by the bank is leaning because it was hit by a vehicle. He also noted that DPW have been doing a good job at snow plowing and salting the streets.

Trustee Smith made a motion and was supported by Trustee Orlandi to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Ann Williams, Clerk

Village of Hillman Managers Report – Feb 3, 2026

1. Remember the budget meeting is at 5 PM before the Council meeting.
2. The quarterly report for the MSHDA grant has been submitted.
3. The FEMA money should be here in 4-6 weeks.
4. I talked to Jan about the 35 cents additional on garbage was a round up so the W/S/G bill was even and a small admin fee.
5. Enclosed is a extension from PAC sanitation.
6. Enclosed is an owner's affidavit on the new campsites. If approved I will send it in to close out the Emerick Park campsite expansion.
7. Also, Pineview Park doesn't have a official plaque for the DNR monies received years ago. Would the Council like me to order one?
8. The Frontier bill for the water tower went to \$1491.65 from \$716.23 and from last Junes \$495.14. I was in contact with them and they agreed to go back to the \$495 if we sign a one-year agreement. It has to be signed by Feb 5th.
9. The response letter has been sent to Aeronautics about the trees. I have a response and I believe they will extend our temporary license. We really need to be able to talk to the land owners. I haven't received any response from letters sent and Mark said he hasn't received a response from Mrs. Bacon.
10. Enclosed are cost estimates for the water well project. Please review and we can discuss at the meeting.

Dave Post, Village Manager Have a good weekend.