

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, 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: Johnathon Smith, Thomas Bouchey, Stephen Orlandi, Velma Brown. Employees: Jan McMurray and Dave Post. Deputy Doug Nedo, Sheriff Department, Yvonne Swager, Tribune, Judy Nichols, Brush Creek Mill.

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

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Bouchey to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2022, Council meeting as written. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. 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 35455 through 35483. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

President Hornbacher reported receiving the nominating ballot from the Chamber of Commerce for Person of the Year and Business of the Year. The Council agreed unanimously to nominate Lori Jacobs as person of the year for her work on getting groups for the band shell this summer. It was suggested we nominate Hillman's Haven for business of the year, they have provided care of the elderly throughout the pandemic. **Deputy Nedo** did not have anything to report but did hear complaints about the 4-wheeler without a muffler that has been running up and down the streets every day. Deputy Nedo said he would go pay the young man a visit tonight and speak to him about putting a muffler on his 4-wheeler.

Manager Dave Post reported that he had talked with Huron Engineering about working on the culvert project on Second Street, he discussed with them about doing work on the Third Street culvert as well. They will inspect it first and then give an opinion about repairs or replacing it as well. There will be a planning

commission meeting on September 19th to review zoning amendments for the S. State Street area. Hillman Power Company has agreed that they will give \$25,000 for Emerick Park playground equipment but would like the Village to match that donation with a 50/50 match. **Manager Dave Post** went on to say that he is looking into other grant programs for parks. The band shell season is over for this year and it was very successful, however it was noted that the last half of August concerts may need to start an hour earlier due to it getting dark before the concerts end. Crack sealing at the airport will begin this week, hopefully we will get the same amount that was done last year. There was a semi-regional workshop about the recycling facility that serves 4 counties. The cost is not going to go down, and those in charge would like to see the landfill put on a fee for garbage haulers, however this brings up the question of Village and Hillman Township residents paying twice for the service. The Village Council could approve a \$25 assessment to be added to the property taxes to cover recycling fees. **Manager Dave Post** asked the Council if they were interested in giving grants from the HELP fund to assist in storefront fix-ups for the downtown area. Trustees Orlandi, and Bouchey will meet with Manager Dave Post and come up with some criteria/requirements for property owners to qualify for grants. **Manager Dave Post** stated that he had requested help from Nico Tucker for filling out a report for federal road funds for Pleasant Valley Road.

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South reported receiving a letter from the Equalization Director, Amber Wolert notifying the Village that as of September 1, 2022, the equalization department will no longer prepare the tax roll for the Village. Citing a state statute that it is ultimately the Treasurers responsibility to prepare the tax roll. It appears there is a breakdown in communication between the assessors and the equalization department. A suggestion was made to contract with Hillman Township Assessor Garry Boldrey to help in preparation and to contact the software company for assistance.

Manager Dave Post asked the Council if they wanted the pocket parks weeded for the winter months, they agreed it should be done, Dave will contact Sheila about doing them.

Trustee Johnathon Smith reported receiving a call from United Way of Alpena wanted to make a connection with the park and asked about the showers being available for homeless population. The Village would be reimbursed for shower usage. Several asked if this was for Hillman homeless or Alpenas' homeless. There was a question as to what this would entail, Clerk Brenda South suggested they might be making a resource list of places available for services.

Trustee Johnathon Smith reported that the water committee met with EGLE about proposed plans for a water filtration facility utilizing the cooling pond infrastructure using river water. Without saying no, the EGLE representative basically said this was not going to work due to our current lagoon drainage system. Suggestions to drill a well next to #7 and put a filtration system on well #9, 10, and 11 were also suggested, that was also discouraged by EGLE, further research for funding will have to be done.

Trustee Steve Orlandi reported that the Hillman Area Fire and Ambulance will have a forensic audit done and ambulance runs are about the same as last year. Lights seem to be working at pocket parks and on the west side of the bridge.

Judy Nichols thanked the Council for getting the new hot water tank installed at the Brush Creek Mill. The mill will be joining forces with the Thunder Bay Community Health Services in celebration of their 40 years of service to the community. Applefest is scheduled for October 1st. There are some civic items that are at the mill and are needing a new home, Manager Dave Post looked over the items and decided they were not something the Village would be interested in. The historical society and genealogy group will now be under the mill's 501-c3. **President Hornbacher** reported that a non-slip mat will be installed at the mill where the water has been a problem, hopefully this will help with the problem of slipping.

A motion was made by Trustee Johnathon Smith and supported by Trustee Stephen Orlandi to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer