

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, September 5, 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, Trustees: Stephen Orlandi, Thomas Bouchey, Johnathon Smith, Velma Brown. Employees: Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South Manager Dave Post. Visitors: Judy Nichols, Yvonne Swagger (Tribune), Deputy Roe, (Montmorency County Sheriff Department), Mr. Jim Stanton, (Hillman Community Radio).

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 with the addition of Lori Kowalski to the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correction to minutes: Airport meetings were held quarterly not monthly as printed in the airport report in the August 15, 2023 minutes, and now will be held as needed. **A motion was made by President Hornbacher and supported by Trustee Smith to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023, Council meeting with the correction that airport meetings were held quarterly not monthly and now as needed. All in favor. Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills with checks numbered 36226 through 36247. All in favor. Motion carried.

President Hornbacher welcomed Mrs. Lori Kowalski to address the Council. Mrs. Kowalski purchased property on East Jonathon Street recently and would like to develop the property for additional housing. Mrs. Kowalski asked that the Village Council consider extending the sewer lines to her property so that they might be able to put in housing. The Council reviewed the map of her parcels and talked about the availability of the sewer lines that are currently running along Jonathon Street. **President Hornbacher** stated that no decision could be made tonight the Council will discuss the location of the current sewer lines with DPW Supervisor John Burr and get a cost estimate for this extension. The issue was tabled until further information is available to the Council.

Deputy Roe addressed the Council regarding problems at Emerick Park. Deputy Roe stated that the department has had multiple calls to Emerick Park for

disturbances, in some cases multiple times a shift, also there are several homeless persons' living there and the campsites are messy. **Deputy Roe** said that their departments' hands are tied as they are not sure who has jurisdiction in the park to control these issues. **Manager Dave Post** reported discussing this issue with the Village attorney, the attorney suggested that the Council write an ordinance with rules and giving authority to enforce the rules. Currently there are rules listed on the park website but nothing stating who can enforce, it is assumed that the park manager would enforce the rules. Until an ordinance is written it was suggested that the deputies call the park manager with problems and if he isn't available call the Village President. The Council thanked the Deputy for his service and told him they will continue to work on this issue.

Mr. Jim Stanton addressed the Council regarding a request to place a plaque at the bandshell in memory of an individual who was a regular attender at the concerts and passed away unexpectedly at a concert a few weeks ago. The Council agreed to let them place the plaque below the dedication/funding plaque. **Mr. Jim Stanton** also stated that the Hillman Community Radio Board agreed to pay part of the electric bill for the use all summer. **President Hornbacher and other Council members** said that no payment was necessary the concerts bring many people into town and this is great for the businesses and also the park.

Manager Dave Post asked the Council if they wanted to order pens again this year for water/sewer customers, they said yes. Dave reported that he had sent letters to various property owners in the village who have unlicensed cars, grass that is not mowed, and he has gotten some responses. **Dave** reported meeting with Huron Engineering about the schedule for the water leads inventory that must be done by January 2025, they will also do a letter for water customers. There are companies available to do the vac work at the curb stop, it may be something to look at since 20% of customers will have to be done. The DPW took pictures of the final work on the lagoons and sent them to Huron Engineering. The DPW Supervisor took a different process on removing the duckweed. The culvert project on 2nd Street was the next issue, according to Becky from Huron Engineering, EGLE is not a real fan of the plans for the insert in the culvert, which may make the flow smaller, but they will likely allow it. Several people have been in to ask about zoning. There are 2 more concerts at the bandshell. **Manager Dave Post** reported that he had checked with the State Land Bank and the money awarded can be used whatever way the Village wants. There is 1 remediation removal company that Huron may work with, using state guidelines for the bidding process.

Trustee Velma Brown reported that Airport Manager Mark Mellinger inspected Aero Pines Hangar and there was nothing in it. Mark has been mowing the airport grass strip.

Park Manager Johnathon Smith asked to refund \$225 to Brenda Amlotte who camped at the park for less than a month, she made the payment online and charged the daily amount rather than the monthly fee. **A motion was made by Trustee Johnathon Smith and supported by Trustee Velma Brown to refund \$225 to Brenda Amlotte for overpayment of Emerick Park fees for the month. All in favor. Motion carried.** **Manager Smith** also reported that the ice machine is not working correctly, it is taking the money but not giving the ice. President Hornbacher will talk with the man who owns the machine.

Trustee Stephen Orlandi reported that the fireboard met, 2 firemen will travel to the company where the new truck is being assembled. EMS registered 65-67 calls a month, up from 60 last year. All streetlights are working well, bridge lights are working, the town clock is working, pocket park lights are working, all is well.

Judy Nichols reported for the Brush Creek Mill, the bathroom floors are in need of replacing, they are tiled, also new high-rise stools should be installed. Volunteers will do the work but the group would like the Village to pay for the supplies.

Trustee Stephen Orlandi asked that Judy get an estimate of cost for the next meeting. Applefest will be held on October 07th with vendors, crafters, an apple pie contest. Judy also asked about a Pickleball Court, it was mentioned to her.

Manager Dave Post explained that the Village had written for a SPARK Grant for upgrading Emerick Park and is currently waiting for a response as to whether it will be given. A pickleball court is in the plans for upgrading if funding comes, we should know within the month. **Judy** reported that VJ Day opening of the museum was very successful, people were enthusiastic about the mill.

A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Smith to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer

