

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, November 21, 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: Dave Post, Jan McMurray, Brenda South, John Burr. Visitors: Ted Fines (Habitat for Humanity), Bob Stacey (Habitat), Tom Wolf (Habitat).

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 with the addition of Ted Fines from Habitat for Humanity. All in favor. Motion carried.

Correction to minutes was MABAS instead of MAVIS as reported in the fire department report, and the ending check numbers were left out of the minutes those numbers are 36394. A motion was made by Trustee Bouchey and supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2023 with the correction of MABAS, not MAVIS as written in the fire department report and, the addition of ending check numbers 36394 not listed in the motion for approving payment of bills. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 36395 through 36424 All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Ted Fines addressed the Council regarding Habitat for Humanity and their desire to build houses in the Village of Hillman. Mr. Fines stated that Habitat had purchased Lot 16 in Orchard Pines subdivision and the Village has purchased lot #24, also 15774 and 15775 on Pine Street will be developed into single family homes as well. This makes 5 lots waiting to be developed, Habitat has worked with a company in Bay City that makes modular homes. These are quality, stick built homes (not manufactured) and currently there are 2 families prequalified for homes in Alpena County. Habitat is a developer, the 7th largest developer in the nation, Habitat serves 5 counties and is now moving into Montmorency County. Over the last 3 years they have worked with veterans in Montmorency County doing mostly home repairs. Discussions with Jack Matthias about the 19 acres behind Orchard Pines for developing housing for middle income families. These homes would sell for around \$180-\$220,000 and would be energy efficient.

President Hornbacher asked how long it takes to build and then occupy a home. Mr. Fines said that the one in Alpena was set in August and should be ready in December. Manager Dave Post got Mr. Fines involved with NEMCOG and he is trying to get more grants in this area, Brian Bartosh has also joined the Habitat Board. The Council thanked Mr. Fines for his report, he left the meeting.

DPW Supervisor John Burr thanked the Council for their partnering with Hillman Township on the walkway extension to Tiger Paw Park. John went on to say that Hillman Township just completed some much needed improvements to the parking lot at Tiger Paw Park adding a driveway making an entrance and exit type drive. John went on to say that they hope to keep truckers out of the parking lot to preserve the new black-top. It was suggested to mark the drives, also John said that they would be marking the parking lot and putting in parking stoppers.

President Hornbacher suggested putting up signs for non-motorized vehicles on the walking path. **John** said that the snowmobile club will be putting up signs on the north side of the street. **President Hornbacher** asked if a fence had been put up in front of the NEMROC building. John said that it was decided that a fence would be more of a liability to NEMROC but if they decide they want to proceed it will be put up in the spring. John went on to say that they will be seeding and putting in mulch from the village DPW garage to the NEMROC building.

President Hornbacher presented a bid from Elmers for \$9200 for the paving and grading work done on this walkway extension. There was a question on the work but it was determined that some of the walkway may have been encroaching on the Consumers' and NEMROC lots so it had to be in the right-of-way. The paving done in front of the NEMROC building was included in Hillman Townships work. **A motion was made by President Hornbacher and supported by Trustee Smith to pay Elmers \$9200 for the paving and grading of the walk/bike path extension. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Manager Dave Post reported that he was contacted by an individual who owns a lot near the NEMROC building located in the industrial park, they want to sell the property and asked if the Village would be interested. Dave suggested it might be more suitable for NEMROC to buy it. Dave reported working on accessing the portal for CDL drug testing for employees, quite a difficult task but he was able to get it done today. Dave said he had been trying to complete this since early October, did a survey on it and he said he may do another one, there were many complaints. Hillman Power Company has sold their storage building (formerly Crawfords building) to a local sawmill. The new owners have requested to use an outside wood burning stove at this location, it is permissible in the industrial park with Council approval. Dave reported that he will be attending an MML meeting

on December 7th and 8th. The lot in Orchard Pines subdivision that was purchased by Habitat was issued with the wrong parcel number on it, so it was suggested to do a quiet title on it to resolve the issue. Dr. Olree has requested to borrow \$11,000 from the HELP fund to install a new boiler system in his Chiropractic business office. The policy is that the Council may issue a loan of up to \$10,000 without the HELP committee's input. Dr. Olree has paid previous loans well within their due date and just paid off his last loan early. **A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Smith to loan \$10,000 to Olree Chiropractic at 4% interest from the HELP fund. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Manager Dave Post reported that Nico Tucker from NEMCOG reported to him that our Passport grant application had scored higher than the original application, hopefully we will get the grant. The revenue sharing report is completed and has been submitted. The office finally got the new printer in.

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South requested that the Council set Holiday hours for the office/employees. The Christmas holiday falls on Sunday and Monday, the employees do not work on Sunday, so it was decided to close on Monday and Tuesday for Christmas. New Years falls the same but employees only get ½ day on New Years eve, so it was decided to give ½ day on Friday prior to New Years eve and all regular hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2nd. Secretary/Bookkeeper Jan McMurray will take a ½ day on Thursday prior to New Years eve since she does not work on Fridays. The Council also allowed the office to close on Friday after Thanksgiving, no pay will be provided but employees will be allowed to work or take it off at their own expense, several have vacation time they may use.

DPW Supervisor John Burr reported that Airport Manager Mark Mellingen cannot repair the runway lights that have been sheared off. There about 10-12 that need repair, however the wiring is underground and will be time consuming to repair. Manager Mellingen does have some of the material needed to do the work, it was suggested to contact Devon Shumaker to see if he would to the repair, we must have a licensed electrician to do the repair. There was some question on the trees at the end of the runway, there are none on Village owned property but some on private property. The furnace in the terminal building will have maintenance done on it in the next few days.

Trustee Smith reported that Emerick Park rentals have slowed down as the park has now closed for the winter. The water has been shut off at all sites but the bathroom water is still on during deer season. There is a trailer at one site that has apparently been abandoned the owner has not been there since early September.

The site was paid for through the first of September. It was decided to try to notify the owner to have it removed or if that is not possible to call Elkie's Collision and have it impounded. **DPW Supervisor John Burr** reported that he had unhooked the ice machine at the shower/bathrooms due to it not working. It took the people's money but did not have ice for them, there were some unhappy campers. President Hornbacher will contact the individual who placed it there to have him come and get it.

Manager Dave Post reported one zoning permit issued for a garage extension at a home on First Street/Adams.

Trustee Orlandi reported a fire board meeting next Monday, he also stated that he will be stepping down from the fire board immediately due to health and personal reasons. Trustee Velma Brown will take the Village's seat on this board beginning this month. **Trustee Orlandi** also reported that the streetlight at Bedford and Second Street is still not working but there was no identification number visible so he was not sure if this was the Village or Alpena Powers. **DPW Supervisor John Burr** reported that the light in the post office parking lot did not belong to the Village, but Alpena Power fixed it. There is a hole in the asphalt near A-1 Woods and Water so the DPW will get some cold pack from the county to fill it in. The lift station by the bridge has died, 2 new pumps have been ordered, the lift station in the industrial park is shot. John stated that he has 2 old pumps that may be usable, they will have to be wired in but they will not handle high capacity. The power plant is no longer there so these pumps may be adequate. John will have Hardies Electric wire them in for service.

Trustee Brown asked if it would be possible to move the meeting time to 6 p.m. rather than 7 p.m. Council members did not have a problem with meeting earlier, but Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South suggested that if they move the time and it is permanent it will have to be published. It will be posted on the door and put on the Village website, and advertised in the paper. **A motion was made by Trustee Brown and supported by Trustee Orlandi to move the Council meeting time from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. beginning with the December 5, 2023 meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Brown to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer

