The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the east-end of the conference room of the Hillman Community Center at 24220 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hillman, MI 49746. Present: President Dave Hornbacher. Trustees: Tom Bouchey, Jonathan Smith and Velma Brown. Absent: Steve Orlandi. Employees: Dave Post, Manager, and Emma Niswonger. Clerk: Ann Williams. Visitors: Ron Floer and Becky Rivard with Huron Engineering.

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

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

Trustee Bouchey made a motion and was supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes from Tuesday, August 4, 2026, as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

President Hornbacher made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills along with the additional ones with check numbers 38671-38697. All in favor. Motion carried.

Emma reported that she is still waiting on BS&A to correct the issue of the data from the first week of June not carrying into monthly totals.

Becky Rivard reported that the lowest bidder for the water wells was EMPI from Hillman. EMPI suggest a stick built well house instead of a prefabricated structure to keep costs lower. She ensured that each council member had a copy of her Bid Recommendation.

President Hornbacher made a motion and was supported by Trustee Brown to award the water well bid to EMPI and have Dave Post, Manager as the signer on the CBDG (Community Building Development Grant) water grant. All in favor. Motion carried.

Becky asked the Council if they wanted to pursue the State Drinking Well Water Fund. She advised it is a loan up to 6.2 million dollars at 1% percent and 20% forgiveness. There are 3 requirements of loan and those are: repair or construct

water line, rehab to water tower and meters. After some discussion it was agreed to have Becky pull together some estimated cost for the following projects:

1. Water line under the bridge
2. Water Loop
3. Baffles to water tower
4. New water meters
5. SCADA system

She agreed to have the numbers by the next Council meeting on September 8, 2026.

Becky also reported that the paving was complete. Tickets will be issued by the Paving company for shoulder gravel. The work came in under budget so we will have to pay back somewhere between $50,000 - $60,000.

Dave Post reported:

1. That the planning commission wrapped up the Zoning Ordinance and we will be having a Public Hearing to adopt it in October along with the Updated Master Plan.
2. There is a NEMCOG meeting in Gaylord on Thursday, August 20, 2026, he will be attending.
3. Included in the agenda packet to each council member was the yearly report for Hillman Community Radio.
4. Also included in the agenda packet was an email from Fortistar. They owned the old Hillman Power site and they ae going to proceed with converting it towards a battery storage facility.
5. He had a packet from Jamie MacArthur which contained a proposed plan to build a miniature golf course across the street from Eli's on State Street. There was a concern because according to the current Zoning Ordinance an outdoor recreation business had to be on one acre or more. The newly updated Zoning Ordinance will not stipulate that, but it is not effect yet. Dave will speak to Jamie MacArthur to find out if she would like to wait or proceed now.
6. He would like to have some time off the end of September or beginning of October.

Trustee Brown reported that the military has now left the airport. Their maneuvers have been completed. Hillman Township this year donated $2000 to the airport instead of the previous yearly rate of $1000. Inspection at the airport will be August 29, 2026.

Dave Post reported that the Village has gotten a zoning permit application to build a house on West Riverside Dr. and several fence requests.

President Hornbacher reported that there was one phone call regarding a child on an ATV riding around Emerick Park like it was a racetrack on VJ Day weekend. The police came and talked with the individual and the activity stopped.

Emma reported that she will not be doing fall classes this semester.

President Hornbacher reported that there is a light out near Eli's.

Dave Post reported there is a water leak at the Golf Course and DPW can't seem to find it. John cannot find the water/sewer plans for the area. We may have to have Huron Engineering make a new set of plans. This can be done utilizing GPS.

Dave also reported that the Township wants a sign near Tiger Paw Park that excludes semi-trucks because they have been damaging the parking lot using it as a turnaround.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

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Dave Hornbacher, President Ann Williams, Clerk