

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, April 19, 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: Stephen Orlandi, Tom Bouchey, Johnathon Smith, Velma Brown. Employees: Jan McMurray and Dave Post. Visitors: Deputy Arnett, Charlie Arbour, Bill DeFisher, Daryl Peterson, and Judy Nichols.

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 Bouchey to approve the agenda as presented. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

Correction to the minutes of the April 5, 2022, Council meeting were bid amounts were \$79,779 and \$81,150.50 not \$80,000 and \$81,000 as printed in the minutes. Also, correction of “before construction season” not “after” as reported in the minutes. A motion was made by Trustee Orlandi and supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2022, Council meeting with corrections. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Bouchey to pay the bills and additional bills with checks numbered 35128 through 35168. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.

President Hornbacher welcomed Bill DeFisher to the meeting, Mr. DeFisher was at the meeting to request use of the municipal parking lot on Second Street for the Wheels Car Club. The Club will host their annual car show on August 14th during the VJ Day celebration. The Council agreed to allow the club to use the parking lot for their car show event.

Daryl Peterson requested the money for the new fire truck stating that the committee had met and prepared the order for the new fire truck, but it must be paid for in full at the time of order. The committee would like the money in by the end of the month by doing so it will save the department about \$30,000. It was suggested by Mr. Peterson that members of the Council and fire board solicit the County for additional ARPA funds for equipment.

President Hornbacher reported that the Planning Commission met last night and approved a Special Use Permit for a home at 15812 State Street which is currently zoned commercial. The house has been used as a dentist office and has now been sold for a private residence. The planning commission also held a public hearing for amendments to the zoning regarding wireless communications facilities, the board recommended that the ordinance for these amendments be sent to the Village Council for adoption. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Manager Dave Post reported the Consumer Confidence Report has been completed and will be published and posted around town for public review. The water committee will travel to the town of Deerfield tomorrow to check out their water filtration plant. The committee will talk to them about using our cooling pond in this process. May 11th through 14th Manager Dave Post will be out of town for a MML Conference in Pittsburg, PA. The Open Meetings Act was mentioned regarding a situation when all 5 council members are in the same room at a function is it a violation of the Open Meetings Act. It was determined that if it was not a “called” meeting and no business was discussed it is not a violation of the act and multiple members can be at the same location without violating the act.

Manager Dave Post and Trustee Stephen Orlandi will attend the NEMCOG meeting on Thursday in Gaylord.

Secretary/Bookkeeper Jan McMurray reported to the Council that the former health insurance carrier for Village employees had sent a reimbursement check of \$11,777.58 for dividends accrued during the 7 years employees were insured by them. According to Jan she was told there were 3 options to use this money and they are: 1) enhance current plan benefits 2) Apply to future costs of the 80/20% contributions and 3) reimburse employees for their 20% contributions for that 7-year period. The total for 2 employees would be \$4489.02. After some discussion it was decided to reimburse the 2 employees for their contribution and to use the balance to pay their 20% contribution for future insurance benefits. **A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Orlandi to reimburse John Burr and Kasey Burr for their past insurance 80/20% contributions in the amount of \$4,489.02 and use the balance for employee 20% contributions. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.**

Daryl Peterson and Charlie Arbour members of the audience questioned the legality of using the balance of the money for employee contributions. After some discussion Trustee Johnathon Smith decided to rescind his previous motion. It was decided to table the issue of the balance of the money until a call to the auditors is

made and clarification of what the money can be used for is determined. **A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Orlandi to reimburse employees John Burr and Kasey Burr for their past 20% insurance contributions in the amount of \$4,489.02. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried.**

Clerk/Treasurer Brenda South reported to the Council that she is preparing for this year's tax season and asked if they would be open to receiving partial payments for taxes as this may be easier for some residents who may have a problem paying taxes all at one time. The new tax software has a feature that allows partial payments, and the township does this for their residents. The County Treasurer asked about extending the Village's tax season to coincide with the townships collection times through December, currently the Village collection is July 1st through September 15th. **Mr. Daryl Peterson**, who was in the audience, suggested that if there is \$1 balance owed and not caught penalties and interest would accrue and it would get confusing or possibly cause a loss of property for the owner. Daryl did not think taking partial payments was in the best interest of anyone, no decision was made on the issue. **Trustee Orlandi** asked about the filing deadline for those running for office, a schedule was included in the agendas, and a determination on who will have to run for office will be given at the next meeting.

Trustee Velma Brown reported that a meeting with hangar owners will be held on May 4th. A door on the terminal building needs to be replaced and a handrail needs to be added and possibly a ramp. A telephone needs to be put back in the terminal building, there are telephone lines there and the Village has been paying the bill.

Park clean-up will start this week and a fire board meeting will be held next week.

Charlie Arbour did not have anything to report for the road commission but did have a bid for the vent fan for the Brush Creek Mill. The fan/vent/duct work estimate was for \$5153.29 this includes drywall. The fan/vent cost is \$2753.29, and an electrician will be needed.

A motion was made by Trustee Smith and supported by Trustee Orlandi to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Orlandi, Bouchey, Smith, Brown. Nays: None, Abstain: Hornbacher. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Brenda South, Clerk/Treasurer

