

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the east-end conference room of the Hillman Community Center at 24220 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hillman, MI, 49746. Present: President Dave Hornbacher. Trustees: Steve Orlandi, Tom Bouchey, Jonathan Smith and Velma Brown. Absent: None. Employees: Dave Post and Emma Niswonger. Clerk: Ann Williams. Visitors: Ron Floer, Jim Stoddard and Natalie Evans with U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The meeting was called to order by President Hornbacher with the pledge of allegiance at 6:00 p.m.

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

Trustee Bouchey made a motion and was supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes of June 17, 2025, as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Orlandi made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills including the additional ones with check numbers 37725 to 37752. All in favor. Motion carried.

Natalie Evans from SBA addressed the council informing them US SBA has financial assistance for small businesses in the form of loans that has suffered losses due to the ice storm at the end of March. She wanted the council to be willing to share the information with local businesses. The council agreed they would. She left business cards and fliers with each member.

Jim Stoddard addressed the council asking permission to contact MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) regarding the sign being made honoring Hillman as the VJ Day capital of Michigan. He also wants to contact PAC Sanitation so he can coordinate trash pickup from the parking lot behind High-Way Inn. **President Hornbacher** granted him permission to come in the Village office and have the clerk call MDOT to get status of the sign and to allow Manager Dave Post to be the only contact to PAC Sanitation for the Village.

Manager Post reported that the CCR (Community Confidential Report) was on the back page of the June 25th *Montmorency County Tribune*. We still have to mail two notices to customers that a bacti sample was late and one was never done. These notices will go out with the August water bills.

He also reported that he has sent out the proposed zoning changes or additions for battery facilities. The planning commission will have a Public Hearing on July 21, 2025. There is also a meeting with the battery company on July 10, 2025.

Dave also advised the Council there will have to be an agreement with Habitat for Humanity to be the Village's developer.

Enclosed in the packet is a letter from *Eli's Marketplace* requesting an unnecessary hardship exemption because their storage van has exceeded the zoned 180-day limit. Dave did talk to Denise with NEMCOG (Northeast Michigan Council of Governments) and her suggestion is to find out from Eli their intentions to build on. If they don't meet the build-on deadline, we can extend the timeline. The Council agreed with Denise's recommendation.

Also enclosed in the agenda packet were cases involving Freedom of Information Act for the council's review regarding giving out personal information.

Dave reported that the test wells are pumping well. He read a letter stating that we are eligible for the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Water Grant and needs a return letter with signature. **Trustee Orlandi made a motion and was supported by Trustee Brown to let Dave Post sign letter. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Dave reported that he met with Jamie McArthur and Julie Lowe from EGLE to discuss the old Homant property. She would like to create a retail area there with several shops. She needs a letter of support from the Council. Consensus of Council was 'yes' to a letter of support.

The Village received a draft of the audit, and it looks very well. The Auditors will be at the council meeting on the 15th.

Bookkeeper Emma shared a request from a water customer who filled their pool with water for the summer and requested "forgiveness" for their water bill. **President Hornbacher** speaking on behalf of the Council declared we will "forgive" sewer portion of bill, but we will not "forgive" water use that used by and for the consumer.

Trustee Brown said she will begin to work on the verbiage of the lease at the airport in order to include a higher cost for hangers used as storage units.

President Hornbacher reported that the Fire Department had 8 runs. The hydrant at DPW (Department of Public Works) had a lot of zebra mussels, and if the pump runs too long, the water turns to mud. They will be getting new screens and a remote power switch. The department will be selling the 1984 Ford. Truck #316 will be going into the shop for repairs. The ambulance Department had 75 runs. Their yearly audit is complete and in good shape. Everyone signed so that Hillman can take over the Canada Creek Ranch Fire Department. Insurance renewal for the year has increased to \$48,000.

Dave also reported that lights are out on part of the bridge. The pocket parks look great, but he would like to see the icicle lights on along with the rope lights. He doesn't have a chipper yet for the brush at the airport.

Manager Post requested a resolution for a gaming license for Hillman Community Radio.

VILLAGE OF HILLMAN RESOLUTION 2025-12
LOCAL GOVERNING BODY RESOLUTION FOR CHARITABLE GAMING LICENSES

At a regular meeting of the Hillman Village Council called to order by Dave Hornbacher on July 1, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. the following resolution was offered.

Moved by President Dave Hornbacher and supported by Velma Brown that the request from Hillman Community Radio of Hillman, County of Montmorency, asking that they be recognized as a nonprofit organization operating in the community for the purpose of obtaining charitable gaming licenses, be considered for approval.

Approval		Disapproval	
Yeas:	3	Yeas:	0
Nays:	0	Nays:	0
Absent:	0	Absent:	0

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution offered and adopted by the Village of Hillman at a regular meeting held on July 1, 2025.

Ann Williams, Clerk

Bookkeeper Emma reported that she received a phone call from a resident of the Village that their dog almost fell in the river due to the crumbling condition of the culvert on Elizabeth Street.

Manager Post reported that he is stepping down from attending the NEMCOG meetings. Someone from the Council should represent us there and he asked for a volunteer.

Trustee Orlandi made a motion and was supported by **Trustee Brown** to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Ann Williams, Clerk