

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, July 15, 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, Thomas Bouchey, Jonathan Smith and Velma Brown. Clerk: Ann Williams. Absent: None. Employees: Manager Dave Post and Bookkeeper Emma Niswonger. Visitors: Dan Smith, Jan McMurray and Ron Floer.

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 Orlandi made a motion and was supported by Trustee Brown to approve the minutes with the following correction: On Page 2, third paragraph it should read in the motion, “to let Dave Hornbacher sign letter.” Not “to let Dave Post sign letter”. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Bouchey made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to pay the bills including the additional ones with check numbers 37753 to 37794. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dan Smith, Auditor, addressed the Council and gave the conclusion that the yearly audit of the Village of Hillman is in strong fiscal standing and has no debt.

Manager Post suggested honoring business that have worked hard to improve their buildings or property with either a letter or a certificate. The consensus of the Council was this is something we should do with a certificate because businesses could hang and let the public see.

President Hornbacher reported that the annual meeting for MML (Michigan Municipal League) is in September for three days, and the Village will need a representative to vote. MML also needs to do new appraisals on property owned by the Village.

Manager Post reported that the enclosed memo in the agenda packet from attorney Tim Gulden explains that we cannot outlaw use for the proposed battery energy storage facility. Dave also reported that we are in compliance with OMS on the new DOT (Department of Transportation) testing. The signature page for the

CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) grant has been sent into MEDC (Michigan Economic Development Corporation). He reported that himself, Dave Hornbacher, John Burr, Tom Bouchey and Ron Floer met with two representatives of Epic Star Energy. They will need to meet with local groups to provide information and campaign that the facility will be safe. Dave is awaiting the affidavit of publication for the CCR (Consumers Confidential Report) so he can send in the certification that it was distributed. He reported that Emma and his computers are old and will not support Windows 11. There is a planning commission meeting July 21, 2025, at 6 p.m. to discuss and have a public hearing for the addition of battery energy storage facility added to zoning ordinance. Dave will be taking July 25th off.

Bookkeeper Emma reported that if any members of the council are interested in Direct Deposit please complete the paperwork. She is still working on the Flex Spending Account.

Trustee Brown reported that while looking over the contracts for the hangar rentals at the airport, it appears that we only have authority over property outside of the hangers and not in the buildings. Manager Post said he will send a copy of the contract to the attorney to look over to get his interpretation.

Trustee Bouchey reported that MDOT hung up the Hillman VJ Capital Signs.

Trustee Brown reported that a bush needs to be cut near the stop sign on Elizabeth and Pleasant Valley Road.

Trustee Orlandi reported that improvements to the Park are great.

Manager Post reported that he talked with Eli and once Eli comes up with a site plan, we will issue a zoning permit at Eli's Marketplace. He also reported that PIE&G gas lines are too shallow near Second Street. They will have to bore down and splice the line in order to have the squash culvert replaced there.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Ann Williams, Clerk