

The Council for the Village of Hillman met in regular session on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 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 and Jonathan Smith. Absent: Velma Brown. Employees: Dave Post, Emma Niswonger. Visitors: Ron Floer and Judy Nichols. Clerk: Ann Williams.

President Hornbacher opened the meeting 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 with a corrected date of Tuesday, January 6, 2026. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Bouchey made a motion and was supported by Trustee Smith to approve the minutes with the following correction: In the 6th paragraph the proposed increased gross wages for Dave Post should read \$1675.21 not \$1675.22. All in favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Orlandi made a motion and was supported by Trustee Bouchey to pay the bills including the additional ones with check numbers 38161-38185. All in favor. Motion carried.

Emma reported that Jan will be working with her this week in order to work on Budget amendments, 1099's and W4's. Budget amendments should be ready at next meeting.

Dave Post reported that Becky from Huron Distributing will here at the next meeting to give updates on bids for the water well drilling grant and the Category B grant. He also reported that the Council will need to address the health insurance cap soon. The Village is way under the cap limits. He also reported that he will be doing the annual Planning Commission report. Himself, Matt Smith and Ron Floer will be meeting with Denise Cline from NEMCOG this week to go over updated chapters of Zoning Ordinance. He also reported that the sewer lagoon discharge permit is up for review. He declared that it would be a busy year this year and if any council member would like updates, just let him know.

He also reported that he will have a meeting with Denise from NEMCOG to make sure we will be able to collect all of the monies from the \$50,000 Planning Grant.

Emma reported that there is a credit on Lydia Walker's water bill and can she put the credit on garbage? The Council agreed yes to putting the credit on garbage. Emma will register for classes on Thursday and begin Monday, January 12, 2026.

Ann reported that there is an older laptop being stored in the vault that Brenda South would like to purchase. **President Hornbacher made a motion and was supported by Trustee Orlandi to sell the laptop to Brenda for \$20 after it is erased. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Dave Post reported that he sent a letter to property owners near the airport to see if we can cut trees. He hasn't given the zoning permit to Eli yet because he would like more detailed plans. He will begin to have Master Plan meetings soon which will include mini/tiny homes.

President Hornbacher reported that the fire department had 5 runs. One firefighter resigned and they hired another. They received a \$5,000 DNR Grant for fire gear. EMS had 67 runs. They have not gotten any applications for a full-time paramedic, but they have hired a part-time EMT. They have increased the ambulance run rates.

Trustee Orlandi reported that the lights in the pocket park by Emmerick Park are out along with some of the bridge lights.

Dave Post reported that we will need a Memorandum of Understanding with Alpena in order to get more points for State Revolving Loan Fund.

Judy Nichols reported that Brush Creek Mill is shut down through April. The building is available for rent. Christmas events were successful. Profits from the Christmas events go toward operational costs while the Golfing fundraiser goes towards youth activities and youth grants given annually.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Dave Hornbacher, President

Ann Williams, Clerk

Village of Hillman Managers Report – Jan 20, 2026

1. FEMA is asking us to re-sign up on their site with more security. I received emails from the State Police showing what needs to be done. This needs done ASAP for final closeout.
2. The school board meeting was canceled and has been re-scheduled for 5:15 Pm on Tuesday. So we will go to the board meeting for a half hour and then come to the meeting.
3. Huron engineering will be at the meeting for an update on projects.
4. There is a planning commission meeting Monday, January 19th.
5. Did everyone get to take a good look at the property appraisals? The MML is asking for approval. Realize, with increased valuations the Village insurance cost will likely go up.
6. In 2015 the Village received a permit for adding campsites. Eleven years later they are finally asking for a closeout. Please see email.
7. The Council needs to set budget meetings.

Dave Post, Village Manager Have a good weekend.