

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
April 11, 2024

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 6:59 pm.

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were said by all who cared to join in.

Roll: Pres Fessenden, Treas Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Cox, Deblois, Durga Grinwis and Kelly present.
Also present Chief Strait and Ed Hovey, Scott Beishuizen arrived later.

Minutes: Motion by Kelly to accept March minutes as presented. Support Deblois; Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurer announced Shelby State Bank was \$100 more interest in one month.
Motion by Deblois to accept the March financials as presented. Cox support; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Grinwis wanted to give status of street signs, and said they (county) are working on it. Some posts are up. No reply from MISSDIG for sewer marking. Discussion

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Grinwis did note that most of the equipment for signs is here but county scheduling is a month out.
-Mention of tree at Eekhoff and work done on it. Wires were going through tree, the power company would take care of it. Noted that it has been cleaned up some already.
-Two lights out, get hold of Scott, per Chief.
-Kelly asked about trees on Garfield. They are bad, limbs on the right of way. Mention of tree on Elm and Ray (Priese). Not in village right of way. If falls, what trouble? Need to talk to Prieses.

POLICE:

-Kelly spoke of reports, 911 report shows 43 calls, 27 at one location.. Discussion of one person, Brenda. Chief has spoken to dispatch and to the prosecutor. Can't do anything.
-Chief did speak to employees about 20 hour rule. Matt Dwyer will retire after 15 years of service, other officers are okay with it.
-Durga said a county officer told her there was a big amount of fentanyl in New Era. Chief knows nothing about it, in village limits or just at a New Era address? Lake Tahoe mentioned.
-Chief met with Farmer's Market group. All is set up, they will hold it two more weeks this year. They want to expand the parking lot.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Grinwis asked to be shown how water in the park can/will be turned on. Get quotes ready for the hookup.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Motion by Grinwis to amend budget for the MML Membership dues, \$533. Kelly support. Carried.
-Corrective Action Plan needs to be completed.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING: Nothing to report

SEWER:

-Cox reported that The Artisan toilets were backing up. He had the plumber come and look at "drain". They will bill us.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Treas. Pepple asked what property is for sale, sign at Garfield and Elm. Unknown.
- Jeff Bode asked president if the village is interested in housing. Literally the land spoken of is a wetland.
- Grinwis apologized for not being here to defend Ben VanSumeren. He does oversee what Ben does. Discussion of the Depot paint and some unhappy with the white paint. That is because it is natural untreated wood. Cox unhappy with work on Parks and Rec not being brought to him. Mention of painting the white with black and it will fix the issue. In the past, "summer" help was the responsibility of Grinwis and will involve Cox going forward. Emphasized Ben has not been padding hours, doing lots of work, streets and parks.
- There has been a request from Jessie (Trailside) for tile on the west and south sides for water issues. And in the alley. Needs to improve things. President told them to go ahead.
- Pres. stated he was told the sewer permit had finally been approved by EGLE.
- Chief stated he believed a letter should be sent to Scott Meyers showing appreciation for all he has done.
- Cox asked about the police using the village hall instead of police barn. Bathroom, parking. Discussion.
- Memorial Parade: Last Monday of May. Coordinate with Chief, what streets to be closed?
- Deblois Discussion of school and carpet being pulled out from plans. Can we pursue it ourselves? Our concern is the cost. Talk to Olmstead and see what the plans are at this time.
(Beishuizen arrived)
- Beishuizen stated the monthly reports are submitted. Meter installed,
- He had been asked by OCRC what our plans are. (speaking of work by them on our streets.)
- Beishuizen disagreed about EGLE approving permit.
- Durga mentioned put bid for lawn care. Discussion. Grinwis stated we have capable machine and a helper that can do the work. Already does part of it. Discussion of where the contractor mowing was being done. Get a map.

Bills presented. Motion by Durga to pay bills as presented. Kelly support; Carried.

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 7:49 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Natalie Kelly, Village Clerk