

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA  
Minutes of Meeting  
August 11, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 6:57 pm.

Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were said by all those who cared to join in.

Roll: Pres Fessenden, Treas Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Bayer, Grinwis, Kelly, Sobers and VanSickle present. Also present Chief Strait, Barb Fessenden, Richard Raffaelli, Austin Cox, Ryan Furman and Michael DeBlois. Richard Westover arrived later.

Minutes: Sobers noted two spelling errors, Under Public Comment, Austin Cox. Under Streets first bullet- both Ben and Tom. Motion by Grinwis to accept minutes as corrected. Kelly support; Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Motion by Sobers to accept the July financial report. Grinwis support; Carried. (Richard Westover arrived)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-Richard Raffaelli works for Peterson Farms and is the Shelby Township supervisor. He gave copies of ORV ordinance to trustees and president. He authored the ORV ordinance that 11 municipalities have accepted. He promised the sheriff it would have county wide adoption. It has been three years. He noted we allow golf carts within village limits and as such our government immunity is gone if we allow this without an ordinance. He spoke of money that the communities see per bike (40 cents) and per ORV (\$39). He has heard of a DNR officer giving tickets within village limits. We would have to have a Public Hearing before adopting ordinance. We can then choose to adopt or not, then it would take 30 days from acceptance to being effective. He says there would be no additional liability (insurance purposes) and ORVs are regulated to 25 mph. Mr. Westover then spoke up about the speed along First St. Going much faster. Trucks gun it when they get to Garfield. He was not happy about straw and hay not being covered on trucks and flying off onto his property and road. Council stated that the speed study we did showed there was not great speed and most vehicles are under limit. Mr. Westover then left, dis-satisfied. Council relayed to attendees our speed studies did not report any high speeds as resident has said he sees. We even had a council member do his own study and it conformed the prior study.

-President brought the discussion back to the ORV ordinance. There are no ORVs allowed on Rail Trail or state highways. Bayer made a motion to have a public hearing in regards to the ORV ordinance. Kelly stated/questioned, that the ORV can cross the state highway (First St) but cannot drive on it. Brings up coming onto First St and driving down to Wesco or restaurant or other stops. This would be an issue. Raffaelli spoke of designated parking areas. ORV ordinance is state while golf cart rules would be a village resolution. Motion to have hearing mentioned again. Grinwis support; Carried. Must be published 2 weeks prior to meeting. Place the Hearing on the agenda for the next meeting, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:**

-Six lights still out, Chief to speak with Scott Meyers and using the lift. He is hoping for next week to get it done. DeBlois noted there is a light out by his house, Third St. That will take a call to Consumers Energy.

-There has been a complaint about the street along Second St, by the Bumstead house.

-Grinwis saw striping today on Oceana Drive. Still not made contact with striping company. There has been construction on Oceana Drive north of Peterson and that will get lots of striping. Discussion of signs again and Jeff (OCRC) backing off of assisting village. Chief spoke with him. The managing director (Mark Timmer) had stated to the township (Raffaelli noted) about wanting to work more with the roads and municipalities.

-VanSickle asked about sign in veterans park and will it be there by festival? Austin Cox recommends speaking with Troy. (from Windridge)

**POLICE:**

- Kelly relayed report. One Third of 911 calls were at Wesco. Wesco has a new manager.
- Mention of leaves still in parking lot and there is a sign stating do not leave them there. Chief has been taking them away.
- Pepple asked if Officer Junewick worked for village previously. Yes, he has.

**PARKS/RECREATION:**

- Sobers reported the shingles are on the pavilion, but as of yet the work has not started. He will speak with Lawrence (Sam Near Roofing).

**FINANCE /ORDINANCES:**

- Permit for First St house, work being done there. Garage.

**INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:** Nothing to report

**SEWER:**

- Kelly asked about the report and no tanks pumped. Clerk reported large bill from Swihart's, it was for repair work at Burnette's and pumpouts for Hillcrest, Ray and Third. Work was done August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- President and Bayer attended meeting at the Avenue regarding 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Shelby Township is supporting the festival and village is being asked to support as well. The request was for climbing wall, bouncy tent and archery range. They will close First Street from Ray to Garfield. There will be live music all day, event is 9am-3pm. Beer tent mentioned but still on the no list. Bayer motioned to give money to event, Raffaelli noted that we cannot donate, we must pay specific bills. Clerk noted would also need to amend budget. Kelly support motion to pay for some events at Festival, amount to be approximately \$2500. We will amend budget when we have the actual amount.
- Trailside is closed for remodeling for the new owner.
- Grinwis noted that we should enforce the length of time for public comment by person.

Bills presented. Motion by Sobers to pay bills as presented. Grinwis support; Carried.

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 8:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted  
*Natalie Kelly*  
Village Clerk