

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
February 9, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 7:00 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, Durga, Grinwis and Kelly present.
Trustees Cox and Deblois absent. Also present Chief Strait, Ed Hovey, Scott Meyers and Larry Byl.

Minutes: Conversation of having list of bills being requested for payment printed. List had been provided this month. Motion by Grinwis to accept January minutes as presented. Support Durga; Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Question of being over budget. We are presently doing better than budget. Winter maintenance and routine road maintenance down. Sewer repairs not reached limit yet, getting there quick. Motion by Kelly to accept the financial report. Bayer support; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Scott Meyers: Trying to get more people to attend Township meetings. They are first Monday at 6 pm in the Township Hall. The park along Rail Trail, 72nd and Buchanan will cost \$5M, there will be 2 ball diamonds, pickleball, playground, 2 soccer fields, bathrooms. They are working with the school. They maintain 30A. Mention of dog park by cemetery hill.

Larry Byl: Here regarding Public Hearing for the Pepple property zoning variance. 60' x 100' pole barn to be separated from parcel, which was noted to be kept together when allowed the large building being made previously. Pole Barn was for antique car storage but things have changed. They are asking for the restrictions that were placed on property at construction time to be removed. Area is zoned R1. Pete Roskam is interested in building to store his snow removal vehicles. Stephen Carlson was called (Master Plan). Ed Hovey asked that Hepworth do a survey. They do not know exact property lines. Motion by Kelly to hold Public Hearing right before next month council meeting. Durga support; Carried.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Chief checked with Consumers regarding lights on Garfield. They are on every other pole. He spent 1 ½+ hours on the phone.

-Not a lot of snow. Not a lot of plowing. Start looking at streets to work on this year. Bids will need to be written and out in April. There is a bad hole on Third St. Shoulder on Wolting Ave is collapsing. Chief asked about trees. Grinwis had them marked, but no one showed up.

POLICE:

-Kelly relayed report, there are a lot of property checks. On the 911 Report, 25% of calls were at Wesco, not on Third St now. Chief and Kelly met this month to go over police things. Will continue at least quarterly.

PARKS/RECREATION: Nothing to report

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Chief, Officer VanSumeren and Deblois met (regarding ordinances). Some are obsolete. The firearms is covered by state law. They cannot be discharged in village. It gives police authority. Asked if Bayer and Durga worked on ORV, preview not sent. Looked at State and County ordinances. Separate one for Golf Carts. Public hearing was in Sept. Not to change anything per Bayer/Durga. Motion by Bayer to implement ORV ordinance. Do not have one printed, need it printed. Clerk to check with Novak for steps. ORV not on state roads. Specific roads amendment? Grinwis spoke of being 16 and licensed. Meyers asked about Public Hearing and post online or at building.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING: Nothing to report

SEWER:

-President, Grinwis and Kelly went to Shelby Village. Met with Jeremiah. Almost holds license. He is willing to get one. We need to hire someone. Ads? Training will take 6 months approximately. Will need to get licensed (or is). Bayer would like it posted on Indeed. Applications go to PO Box 85. Wolting monitors testing this month. Jeremiah does their own testing. Something to look into.

OTHER ITEMS:

-OCCOA has requested using the hall for their April 25th meeting. Council approves. Need to know timing for cleaning and unlocking.

-Durga spoke of meeting agenda. Have public hearing at end? Grinwis noted we have never turned people who ask/request comments down.

-President asked to consider having the April meeting the 20th not 13th. He will be out of town. Motion by Kelly to move April meeting to April 20th. Bayer support; carried.

-President mentioned thoughts/consideration of hiring a part time village manager. 20 hours a week. Get someone retired. Write Grants, oversee sewer. Police chief does a lot.

-Bayer suggested motion to have cannabis in the village. Grinwis and Kelly both expressed no and had turned this down previously. Byl noted in state election, New Era was 75% opposed and township was 66% opposed.

-Meyer: reminded that in emails don't hold discussions as that violates open meetings act. Website works.

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

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 8:07 pm

Respectfully Submitted