

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 12, 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, Cox, Deblois, Grinwis and Kelly present.  
Also present Chief Strait, Ed Hovey, Sara Durga, Luke Craymer and Scott Meyers.

President asked for motion to appoint Sara Durga for the open council Trustee. Motion made by Bayer to appoint Sara Durga to vacant seat. Grinwis support; Carried. Clerk did swearing in for Sara Durga to position of Council Trustee.

Minutes: Motion by Kelly to accept December minutes as presented. Support Grinwis; Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Motion by Grinwis to accept the financial report. Kelly support; Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-Scott Meyers: Wondering what is happening with ORV ordinance. Council has been looking at it, and talking to/with Shelby Village, but not moved forward.

-Luke Craymer: He lives outside the village on Garfield. His property is right next to our drain field. He is wondering if the council would be open to allowing his sheep to graze on the field and keep a fence up. City of Hart does this on their retention ponds. Craymer spoke with Jim Evans (Hart). The belief is this would be mutually beneficial. Kelly asked if this would be continuous? Have a separate paddock? Kelly asked if there would need to be a permit allowing this action. Craymer has spoken with the health dept and county drain commissioner. Health Dept stated there are no concerns from their end. Grinwis mentioned that Gayle Forner has sheep and we could lease eventually. Bayer asked about potential damage. Cox mentioned feces issues. Kelly stated that should not be a problem. Kelly does think EGLE needs to be involved. Question of portable water – yes. Wonder what type of agreement to get legally done. Council needs time to look into. Hope is to start in May, Craymer has 3 acres.

**STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:**

-There has not been much activity since the last snowfall in December.

-Street lights: Blackmer is coming in to check with Veltman. Mention of tree limb near a pole by Mulder house. Call Consumers.

-Durgas asked about getting a light installed at her driveway. There is a pole but no light. Would help illuminate the speed limit sign. (Lights are every other pole.)

-Grinwis will be gone for 2 months after February meeting. Cox is also on lights so he will have to report.

**POLICE:**

-Kelly relayed report, there are a lot of property checks. Chief stated that our police are helping county since they are short with labor. 911 report – deer accident, two of them in village. Hours for the year were less than 2000. Chief stated it is tough getting the officers to work lots of hours. Grinwis asked about interest in adding officers, chief stated they cannot get anyone, county has issues and so does Muskegon.

**PARKS/RECREATION:** Nothing to report

**FINANCE /ORDINANCES:**

-Investigation of Shelby ORV? Grinwis said it basically gives officers direction. Mention of age – either/or? Belief that it is 16 years and must have a permit. Cox noted he felt things were redundant. Mention of three wheelers – not allowed but if you are 16 you can? Should we give a copy of ordinance to the attorney?

Consider both ORV and golf carts? Included with different paragraph. Kelly noted that Pentwater has a separate ordinance (given when this all started). Committee needs to read it over and write up a possible version. Bayer & Durga to meet, Cox to be part of it as well. Get to council members by Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.

-Budget changes:

Govt Misc – add \$2500 (it is Sesquicentennial celebration); Police Capital – add \$3000; Parks Contract Services – add \$2000; Police Uniforms – add \$50; Major/Contr maint – add \$750, Sewer/supplies – add \$20. Extra money will be taken from savings.

Cox asked about how contractor billing is done, need more detail. Talk of combining positions and have one company or person. Wolting will be leaving, staying through training. Malda does mowing but not walking well. Training would take 6 months and they would have to take tests for the sewer work. Grinwis said should contact Shelby, they have 3 guys working sewer/water. Motion by Kelly to accept budget changes. Bayer support; Carried.

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

**SEWER:**

-Sewer problem (accident) on Third St fixed.

-Changes: first thing – go see Shelby. There is a sample due 2/24 (Bayer noted). Pres. stated Wolting would take care of. Talk of running an ad: Look for a body to shadow Wolting and handle tests.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

-Deblois asked about Ordinances. Many questions. 19 – from 1967, no one except law enforcement can carry firearms. That is unloaded. State law says with a CPL you can carry in the village. State law does override village law. Grinwis and Deblois to help Chief and Officer VanSumeren.

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

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 8:14 pm

Respectfully Submitted