

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
June 13, 2024

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 6:58 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 and Kelly present.
Trustee Grinwis absent. Also present Chief Strait, Ed Hovey, Scott Beishuizen, Ryan Good and Gene Zainea.

Minutes: Motion by Deblois to accept May minutes as presented. Support Cox; Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion by Kelly to accept the May financials as presented. Support Durga; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Ryan Good-candidate for judge position of retiring Judge Lambrix. Has 24 years total legal experience. First as a reporter for the court system, he saw what happened in court room and how it affects home life. Work in the Hesperia Office. Does wills, estates, guardianship, conservatorship. He wanted to raise his kids here so stayed. Went to Hesperia High school.

-Gene Zainea: Start coming to watch (council and village activity). Noticed in town sometimes the air stinks, REAL bad. He has been here 20 years, it is getting worse and lasts longer. President noted the canning company invested lots of money (millions of dollars) to fix/help the issue. Zainea noted it has been about 1 ½ years and stronger and lasts longer.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Per Grinwis note - there is some cost savings on the chip & seal. (Pres. noted). Third and Hillcrest is to be taken care of. Kelly asked about time frame. No time. Noted that Grinwis authorized the street sweeper before the Memorial Day and parade.

POLICE:

-Noted that Matt (Dwyer) is done as of July 1st/June 30th. Will be available for festival (Electric Forest). Chief has hired Jim Duram. Worked in Whitehall and Muskegon.

-Chief had a call at 2am from Sharon Peterson. Chief took care of it, tree fell.

-Chief noted there will be full coverage for the festival (Electric Forest).

PARKS/RECREATION:

Mary Mulder gave a bid to Cox/Pres. Repair pickle ball and basketball court. \$4650. Concern do now or next (fiscal) year. There is a stipulation to move the fence on the north side. Cox asked if it fixes the issue or just a Band-Aid. Amount seems reasonable. Asked about a Stovall quote. Will there be proper drainage? It is all sand, should not be an issue. Stovall had previously stated it was a concrete issue. The quote does only sound like surface work. Guarantee work? For how long? Motion by Cox to move forward with the repair/work. Support Kelly; Talk to Oceana Fencing. Carried.

Question of softball field taken care of? It has been marked and mowed.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Budget for 2024/25. Month to review over, motion by Cox to approve the budget. Support Deblois; Carried.

-Ordinances-Deblois spent some time going over ordinance book. First note is there is no structure. He presented a chart to council. Spoke of traffic pay for parking tickets. Mention of Parks and Rec for overview of Ben VanSumeren by Cox, not just Grinwis.

Switched to School issue and what's happening. Beishuizen suggests that New Era residents come to the meeting next week. (Public Hearing about action to take regarding New Era Elementary building.) Olmstead (Supt.) has not been responding to Durga's emails.

Cox asked/mentioned dumpsters for Clean up day. Comment to have Ben supervise as they were too full. Chief had someone (New Era Canning) crush them. Bulldog complained that they were too full to pick up. Was mention of the location they were placed.

Back to Deblois work – look over the paperwork from Deblois to approve or disapprove changes next month.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING: Nothing to report

SEWER:

-Beishuizen stated monthly report submitted. No word from state yet on permit. May 21st, there was a 1:30 power outage.

OTHER ITEMS:

-Motion by Kelly to set the village millage at 4.6 mils. Support Cox; Carried.

-Deblois also mentioned the stench in town. If canning company spent money, it is not working. President to meet with Joel. From soaking beans? Fermentation?

-Deblois spoke of speeding on Third St near Garfield. Cox saw dirt bikes doing donuts. Police to check things out around the streets. Speed Machine? Chief will check. Durga also noted speeding by her.

-Deblois asked about feral cats. Five in the neighborhood. Mr Zainea stated that the feed mill is where the trouble is at. All the eats (mice) for them.

-Deblois said that he believed Memorial went well. Durga noted that not fully. They (personally) had to block First St. before the parade came through.

-Pres. stated the Health Dept. called 10 days ago. Test the well in the parking lot, it is broken and exposed. Call Noah Dykstra.

-Kelly mentioned chief went to Chamber meeting. Should we be assisting with activities?

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

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 7:48 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Natalie E Kelly
Village Clerk