

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
May 11, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 7:00 pm.

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

Roll: Pres Fessenden, Treas Pepple, Clerk Kelly, Trustees Deblois, Durga, Grinwis, Kelly and Walsh present. Trustee Cox arrived a little late. Also present Chief Strait, Ed Hovey, Larry Byl, Karen DuMont, Steve Bartlett and Scott Beishuizen.

Minutes: Motion by Deblois to accept April minutes of meeting as presented. Support Kelly; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Larry Byl: Byl noted he just read the Atty Novak letter that was just handed out.
(Cox Arrived)

He noted that if the pole barn was converted (on the Pepple property on Elm St.) she would not be against it. Her recommendation is to not grant the variance, we would be altering a 20 year old variance. Lot size is not the issue. There will be no action tonight, this will give Byl time for other options.

-Dustin Dean had requested time but could not be here, Cox to present. Dean has a 501c3, Shelby Wrestling, and they are applying for a Raffle Permit. He has to apply within the area of the address for the 501c3 (Dean's New Era address). So asking for our approval. Last year we authorized but it was not issued by state since less than one year. Motion by Kelly to support the application for the raffle for fundraising for the wrestling club. Grinwis support; Carried.

-Karen DuMont: she has concerns about the village ordinance for appearance of yards and homes. Mentioned Third St vehicles in yard still not moved. There is a broken truck in a yard, youngsters are riding in the street and are there is no supervision. That house has 4-6 cars in the yard, how many families are there? Does not appear to be just one. Walsh noted the ordinance is on the website. The police enforce. VILLAGE CLEAN UP day is May 20th. Also mention of Garfield Rd and the house with lots of cars on the grass.

Additionally she mentioned the "big dip" when going from Third St to Hillcrest Dr. Does the county take care of that? Grinwis noted it is on our list (for street work).

What can we do about kids playing in the street?

-Mr Bartlett is here to observe.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The March and April reports were presented in full (clerk has quickbooks working again without the monthly requirement). Motion by Kelly to accept the March and April financials as presented. Walsh support; Carried.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Police have a list of street signs and cost. 67 items. Signs, posts, caps. \$3322.21 They are MDOT approved. Kelly noted the speed limit signs on First St has been replaced by chief. Motion by Cox to order the signs. Walsh support; Carried.

-Quotes for road work: Meyers Ave \$50200, Wolting Ave \$29800, Third St \$64200. 1 ½ overlay, mill intersections, There has been nothing done this current year even though budget some work. 1 ½ overlay will crack, chip N seal works. \$30K/mile. OCRC has less rates. Chip N Seal last 5-8 years. Walsh asked for chip n seal quote. Wolting Ave, edges are the problem, that will add cost. Hovey mentioned dip on Hillcrest Dr. Beishuizen said it should be dug and fill it in. Grinwis mentioned if get a price under \$35K/mile move forward? Motion by Cox to move ahead with ordering work under \$35K. Walsh support; Carried.

POLICE:

- Quiet month. Was an intoxicated person at soccer field. Cox noted that someone has driven on it (soccer field).
- Light at Third St and First St is on all day. Chief noted fixed but mentioned that it is still on.

PARKS/RECREATION:

- Cox spoke of cracking at (pickle)ball court. Reach out for quote? Repair was not proper aggregate, the problems will happen again. He proposed a bid to do the whole thing correctly with proper drainage. 2 bids.
- Kelly presented the Clean Up flyer. Cox and Walsh contacted 3 garbage companies, half the price. Bull Dog Dumpsters. Waive the surcharge. No Tires, no chemicals.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

- Proposed budget presented. Clerk noted some changes. Council to review and consider for next month. Already one change under sewer, contract services being reduced. Not two people at \$1200/month all year.
- ORV Ordinance. Walsh sent, is it #47 or #48? #48
- We are seeing more side by side and traffic. Age under 16 cannot operate. Took out 12 year old. 50% of fees to New Era Street Fund and 50% to New Era Police Dept. Deblois noted Golf Ordinance is fine as he sees it.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:

- New bill for work comp, \$6540 one year.

SEWER:

- Walsh to sit with Beishuizen on the ordinance and sewer units. Pumpouts talked about.
- Kelly, Pres. And Beishuizen met before meeting. We are not following permit. Talk of flowmeter and backup generator. Not in compliance for sometime per permit. \$15K and \$25 additional costs. Hovey states should consider adjust sewer rates to cover itself. MI Rural Water can help figure how much to charge per person. Costs \$300-400 for membership. Beishuizen told to make call. What percentage have been pumped this year? (More than any year in last 15 years. This was not being done annually as planned.) Our permit expires next year. Must submit within one year, need to be doing it. Beishuzien to check with someone else for their assistance. Does not want to seal with Nordlund. Not doing due diligence.
- Will meet with Beishuizen each month.

OTHER ITEMS:

- Clerk told of HHW report sent and numbers collected.
- President called Laura Campbell regarding the sheep on drain field. EGLE change permit and answer is NO.
- Mark Fessenden called after last meeting. He has not paid CNC bill for sewer repair on Third St. We paid \$2500, mention of putting through insurance. Since Republic left Fessenden has collected our garbage and never charged us.
- Cox mentioned culvert and tried calling Matt Beckman, not heard for 2 weeks. \$3500 for Beckmans.
- President had a text from Westover (First St resident) Complained about Grant Township Emergency passed him reved the diesel and gave black smoke as passing his house. Said we are out of control. Mention of Radar report, not seen yet, but numbers never been fast.

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

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted