

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
November 12, 2020

Meeting called to order by President Richards at 6:59 pm.

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

Swearing In of Elected Officials: Pres – Don Richards, Treas-Sharon Pepple, Clerk-Natalie Kelly, Trustees-Roger Fessenden and Tyler Sobers.

Roll: Pres Richards, Treas Pepple, Clerk Kelly (via telephone), Trustees Fessenden, Grinwis, Kelly, Sobers and VanSickle present. Trustee Fleury absent. Also present Chief Strait and Michael Wolting.

Minutes: Motion by Fessenden to accept the October minutes as presented; Grinwis support; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Wolting here regarding Ordinance Violation. He has chickens, they are in fenced area, about a 4' x 4'. Only are out when he waters which is rarely. Not free range chickens. Per Village Ordinance, housing for animals has to be 50' from property line and 100' from road right of way. Wolting stated the neighbors did not care (about chickens). Said "if it is a rule, it is a rule." Asked if about the right of way. Kelly mentioned chickens in his neighborhood. Wolting asked if the issue is too many chickens? Too close to property line? Neighbors not like? He felt he is not hurting anything. VanSickle told of a nearby neighbor who had them but they are gone now. There were roosters, Wolting said he had roosters but they are gone. Council told him to make sure he is away from the property lines and Chief Strait will revisit. (Wolting left)

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Motion by Kelly to accept the financial report as presented. Grinwis support; Carried.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Chief noted there are lights out along First St. Working on that.
-Talk of parking-There is a truck in church parking lot. Wally Wolting complained it is too close to road and come plowing time will be a problem. In the right of way. No action.

POLICE COMMITTEE:

-Talk of the ramp at Malda house, Grant Twp people helping.
-Chief said they cannot take drunk drivers to jail,. No jail and cannot let them drive home. What should the police do?
-Fessenden mentioned the Kawasaki that is still driving around village. Almost ran a stop sign, but he said something and they did stop.

PARKS/RECREATION:

-Pres asked about pickleball net coming down. Pepple stated people are still playing.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Kelly stated that he and Chief went around a couple weeks ago to check for Blight Ord, violations. Perigard house on Redwood and Torres house on Blair are two that stuck out. Also mention of Pranger shed along alley. Need to get it down. More than ½ the roof gone and lots of broken glass. Chief to find number for Pranger and try to contact him. Back to Perigard, cars, at least 2 without plates (Sobers note) and 3 piles of "stuff", lawn mowers and more.
-Someone has asked if village is going to allow driveway east of Elm St. for the new Tri County Bldg-NO.

-Talk of abandoned vehicles. Chief says he cannot do much about it the way the ordinance is. Clerk stated that French (past chief) had said that if not valid license plate we can have removed. Chief does not read ordinance that way. Motion by Kelly to have Officer Dave VanSumeren work on the wording of the ordinance so action may be taken. Support VanSickle and Fessenden. Carried.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING: Nothing to report

SEWER: Nothing to report

OTHER ITEMS:

-Pres did say that since letter was sent out in Feb regarding water, there is not as much water being pumped now. Then again it has been a lot dryer. Kelly relayed that Wally Wolting made comment that pumps are old and in bad shape. Will cost village quite a bit of money. (Note-our system is over 30 years old.)

-Mention of large accumulation of leaves in lot by church. VanSickle stated they were gone on Saturday, then she took some leaves and within a very short time very full again. Near has been emptying. Just lots of leaves.

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

Pres. Richards adjourned meeting 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted