

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
November 9, 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 Cox, Deblois and Kelly present. Trustees Durga and Grinwis absent. Also present Chief Strait, Scott Meyers, Douglas Kelly and Mark Olmstead.

President informed the council that Trustee Walsh had resigned due to her job on the other side of the state and traveling. He thanked her for her service.

Minutes: Motion by Kelly to accept October minutes as presented. Support Cox; Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion by Deblois to accept the October financials as presented. Kelly support; Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Mark Olmstead: Shelby Public Schools Supt. – He has been at the school for 10 years, (principal and then superintendent for little over a year). He wanted to give a brief update on the school building changes. The new school is not moving fast but now signs that it will meet plans. Plan to start using Shelby Elementary in January. Hope to have the inspection by the end of the month. This was all done with the Spring 2021 bond. They have bids to work on the high school, roof and exterior doors have been done. Redo the track. In the winter talk about middle school renovations and future of New Era Elementary building. Studies in the county show housing needs. Work with Oceana Economic Alliance and attempt a work force study. What needs are in New Era. Wants open door communication. They sold the 2nd series of bonds in May. President Fessenden mentioned looking at putting together a committee to meet. Kelly said it was said that it has not been good with the other two schools (Ferry and Benona school closures). Olmstead said he does not want to have history repeat itself. February hope to have detail conversation about Middle School and what to do with New Era School. Deblois asked about time frame for studies. Olmstead replied housing is done. Oceana Econ. Alliance doing due diligence to make data usable, unknown timeline. Scott Meyers – Township update. Township Park along Buchanan is coming along well. He offered to email newsletter. FEMA and Stephen Carlson work shoulder to shoulder with the rest of the area. They have written a resolution opposing septic tank regulations. Lansing is making it expensive if you have a septic and drain field. Cost is high. Cox asked the reason. Unknown. We should look at the letter. Meyers then noted the township has built a dog park and cemetery (east side of cemetery hill). There have been calls from all over. Lastly, the addition is finished at Meyers Chevrolet.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE: Nothing to report

POLICE:

Kelly referenced reports sent and given. No issues per chief. He stood in middle of street for Halloween night. Church had ~800 kids. Saw lots of moms and dads. Deblois noted it was an extreme opposite of last year.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Clerk noted the audit is going on. Lots of talks.

PARKS/RECREATION: Nothing to report

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING: Nothing to report

SEWER:

-Kelly and Pres. met with Beishuizen last night. Last month there were two bids for flowmeter, \$31K and \$25K. New quote looked for-Gustafson HHD then quoted \$11.5K, we paid for the equipment. It is installation and Consumers Power pole. Cox said he can get the pole for free. Nelson Cable company mentioned, like the one obtained for the well in park. Told Cox to contact Beishuizen. Motion by Kelly to accept Gustafson quote/bid. Support Deblois; carried.

-President noted that Beishuizen is doing a great job. Knows lots of people. Knows about pump and when power out, made calls.

OTHER ITEMS:

-Deblois asked about ordinances. Talked of sidewalks, rough draft for #5. He added an extra paragraph that property owners are to take care of sidewalks. Thank You Mike. Act upon it? Look it over? Let it percolate for one month.

-President called Stephen Carlson, Hazardous Mitigation Team. About money to/from government after natural disaster.

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

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted