

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA
Minutes of Meeting
October 12, 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, Durga, Grinwis, Kelly and Walsh present. Also present Chief Strait, Scott Beishuizen, Chelsae Hayes, Scott Meyers. Jack White arrived later.

Minutes: Motion by Deblois to accept September minutes as presented. Support Kelly; Carried.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

-Chelsae Hayes: here for an update on Halloween, Chamber page for trick or treating. Schools love it on Saturday, between 6 and 8pm, not well liked on school night. Walsh stated she thought last year was a success. Motion by Walsh to have Trick or Treating as last year from 6-8pm. Durga support stating it is better for parents and children. Suggested to shut your light off if you don't have candy. Kelly asked if chamber or church controls the trick or treating day. Walsh clarified wants village to go along with Chamber on Saturday.

(Jack White arrived)

Kelly and Clerk noted the other villages (Shelby, Rothbury, Hart, Pentwater) are having it Halloween, Tuesday.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Cox, Deblois, Durga, Walsh. Nays: Grinwis, Kelly, Fessenden.

-Jack White-Fire Chief SBFD: President reached out to him. Spoke of ambulance service and concerns, Deblois told of his personal experiences, 35-40 mins to show up, more than once. White stated that Priority 1 is severe bleed, chest pains and such. Priority 2 is not life threatening. Go if ambulance is too far away. Priority 3 is assist if requested. There are 12 employees/workers. 3 paramedics, 4 EMT and 4 others. Those who live close to place of call come straight to it. There were 2 med calls at the festival. They had 276 calls last year. President asked about mutual aid with Grant Township. Any structure, 3 depts respond, 3 engines and 3 tenders. 18 firefighters. Spoke of Mutual Aid Fire System but not trained. Deblois asked about changes with Grant Township and White just referenced they cover part of New Era (south side of Garfield and south). They have no medical for Crystal Valley and Hart. Mason County has one ambulance strictly for transport. Deblois asked what villages can do to encourage funding. 90% of the time Life meets their time. Time from page (call report) to first truck there is 6-8 mins. Medical-if those two guys live closer they get there in 4-5 mins. They presently have 18 workers but could have 26. They are not volunteers. (White left)

-Scott Meyers: asked about drains by shop and Grinwis replied that they are on Beckman's list to get done.

STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:

-Grinwis has not had the chance to speak with county about Hillcrest and Third St. Thinking patch work.

-There is a little issue at end of Meyers Ave. Holes on Third St. (Morden, Lambrix, near Anderson).

-Slowly but surely putting up signs. Ben VanSumeren is getting a grinder.

POLICE:

Kelly referenced reports sent and given. Vehicle has new tires, they had 50K miles on them.

PARKS/RECREATION:

-Pump is put in (veteran park) but final bill is bigger than quote. Joel (Burnette Foods) and pump guy worked it out. Need to think of winterizing it. Cox mentioned anti-freeze. Talk of formal letter of Thank You. Plaque for the donation.

FINANCE /ORDINANCES:

-Clerk reported audit starts Oct 30th. Also noted need to watch sewer spending, exceeding budget regularly.

INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:

-Cox stated he would prefer bids to be out 2 weeks ahead of time. Durga suggests giving bid to only one who responded – Wolting. Discussion of sidewalks being cleared of snow. Is responsibility of business/property owners. Village has someone do it, early in morning. Add much more cost. Grinwis mentioned seeing if Wolting will amend and do sidewalks. Motion by Durga to accept bid from Wolting. Grinwis support; Carried.

-Walsh will make a facebook page. Wants committee to look into ordinance about sidewalks.

SEWER:

-Bid for installing flowmeter not liked by Beishuizen. Trying to get another. \$25K to \$31K, Bieshuizen says that is overpriced.

OTHER ITEMS:

-Bins for leaves. Clerk to call John Near.

-Grinwis gave 100 extra bulbs to Postema for park. Deblois asked if everyone is aware that the Holland Tulip Festival digs up their bulbs and gives them out each year. \$10 for a 5 gal pail.

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

Kelly asked about portajon, have removed.

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 8:12 pm

Respectfully Submitted