

VILLAGE OF NEW ERA  
Minutes of Meeting  
September 14, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Fessenden at 6:59 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 and Kelly present.  
Trustees Cox and Walsh absent. Also present Scott Beishuizen, Douglas Kelly, Scott Meyers, Phil Morse and Officer Dave VanSumeren.

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

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Motion to amend under Budget due to many extra purchases. MAJOR: Traffic Services (signs) up to \$4000-just went to \$300 last month, need to cut ordering; LOCAL: Routine Maint-up to \$25000, work done by OCRC; GOVT/Treas: Services-up to \$2500 for computer breach repair; GOVT/Other Govt-Payroll taxes-up \$1200 since Beishuizen on payroll and payroll taxes cost \$100+ per month, so total \$1650 now. Then accept financials as adjusted. Motion by Grinwis. Kelly support; Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

-Phil Morse-Oceana County Commissioner: wants to be with us to share county news. They will present a Housing Study at a Public Meeting, Wed., Sept 27 at 11am. It will be at the MSU Research building, north Oceana Drive. Many items mentioned but noted the bottom line is the county board is doing decent. Pres. Fessenden asked if they have had concerns over ambulance service. Are they happy with the service change or just saving money. Morse stated there are quarterly reports from Life EMS regarding response time. 15 mins is the standard. When not respond in the 15 mins then noted in log and the county sees. Qtr 2 (April-June) 87% compliant. (Morse had the reports.) Average was 9.33 mins. Qtr 2 in 2022 was 91%, average time 10:37 mins. There were 48 times above 15 mins. In 2022 and in 2023 was 80. 647 responses in 2023 and 688 in 2022. They have had staffing issues. Often there are two ambulances on the road at the same time. Used to have Grant Twp and Shelby Fire help/assist. Deblois told of his knowledge/experience of 3 instances, 45 mins, 40 mins and 20 mins. Mention of inviting Jack White from Shelby come to our next meeting to talk with/discuss with him.

-Scott Meyers: Asked if we had any questions for the festival (happening this weekend). Everything is on track for the chamber.

**STREETS/LIGHTS COMMITTEE:**

-Better signs are going up. Ben VanSumeren is doing a lot of it by himself. They have to call MISSDIG for every intersection.

-Third St has been striped.

-Pres. reported that Karen DuMont called regarding the dip on Third and Hillcrest. Possible to blacktop it and use a roller over it?

-Also mention of hole on Third St by Morden driveway. On the road that was just chip and sealed.

**POLICE:**

-Kelly referenced reports sent and given. Talk of Farmers Market and how it went. It is done for the season.

**PARKS/RECREATION:**

-No word on well or power.

-Strait had told Pres about the power washing at the pavilion. Needs painting now. Then next thing will be the bricks on sidewalk.

**FINANCE /ORDINANCES:**

-Pres reported that Bill Glover has given paper work for the property split on Garfield and Redwood. Eric Noggles. We approved at the April 2022 meeting.

**INSURANCE/PRINTING/PUBLISHING:** Nothing to report

**SEWER:**

-Beishuizen stated that samples taken, reports submitted. Telemetry is on for power outages. The Peterson pump is fixed (Third St). Airlocked, fuses blown for the light and alarm. Kelly noted having seen Wolting at location – was there with CNC “helping.”

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- Question of pay for President – council consensus is that the pay is not based on attendance.
- Grinwis mentioned/asked Meyers about the overgrowth across street from village (on Garfield). The drain is to be dug.
- Treas reported of security breach on her computer.
- Kelly asked about Burnette Foods having a pump out again this month. Twice in two months, never happened in decades. Beizhuizen reported that it is scheduled with Swihart’s for every six weeks. Discussion how to handle/move forward, as their payment will never cover these costs. Had never been done that often in years. Pay twice and any other bills forward to Burnette.
- Pres. also received a call from Linda Dutcher (Elm St). She commented about Princes (also Elm St) trimming plants along road. Pres. believes it is their property and vegetation and we are good.
- Pres. then reported Mr. Walhout stated the siren is not working. Durga said that no one knows why it runs. It does not run for tornado warnings. Meyers stated that most people would be happy if it is not fixed.
- Phil Morse clarified the ambulance report is just for Med 1 calls, not Med 2 or 3. Med 1 – heart attack, Med 3 - transport, Med 2 – broken leg or such.
- Deblois spoke of Westover (First St) and Deblois been looking for Westover on First St and paying attention to vehicles going past Westover house. Deblois has not seen people speeding. Deblois even noted that he has seen police being in the area as well.
- Motion by Durga to refund Scott Meyers the \$75 deposit he placed on a festival bill the village is paying. Grinwis support; Carried.

Bills presented. Motion by Grinwis to pay bills as presented. Kelly support; Carried 5-0.

Snowplow Bid needs to get published. Clerk to do it.

Discussion of Fuelman and moving away from them due to monthly fees. Motion by Kelly to look into other options. Deblois support; Carried. Beishuizen mentioned Wex.

Pres. Fessenden adjourned meeting 7:49 pm

Respectfully Submitted