

\*\*\*\*\*

Village of Hesperia, Michigan  
Regular Council Meeting  
April 12, 2021  
7:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

**Call to Order:** President Farber called this Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Village Hall. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.

**Roll Call:** Members Present: Dan Herin, Joyce McDonald, Jackie Slocum, Jim Smith, Sara Walker, Mike Farber

**Also present:** Clerk Burrell, Chief Herremans, Mike Stanaway, Stephanie Halverson, Sheri Hunt, Kevin Hunt, Terry Beardsley, Jr., Jesse Nebola, Chuck Yob, Diane Schindelbeck, Tammie Nguyen, Debra Pagan

**Set the Agenda:**

**Motion** by Herin **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to set the agenda as presented  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:**

**Motion** by Walker **Seconded** by Herin (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing held on March 8, 2021  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Walker (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held on March 8, 2021  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for the month of March 2021 in the amount of \$18,640.09  
**Discussion:** McDonald inquired about the purchase of a weed wacker in the amount of \$369.98. Stanaway said it was a replacement for the one that was missing. This one will only be used at the WWTP.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Announcements/Correspondence:**

**Committee Reports:**

**Ambulance:**

**Buildings and Grounds:**

**Dams, Parks, Civic & Recreation:**

**Finance, Budget & Insurance:** McDonald said that the committee would be looking into purchasing procedures that were set in 2015.

**Grants, Fund Raising, Chamber-Interact:**

**Marihuana:**

**Ordinance:**

**Personnel:**

**Streets and Sidewalks:**

**Technology:** Walker and Slocum said that they did not have an update on broadband. The last they heard, the gentleman was working on a plan.

**Police and Zoning:** Chief Herremans reported that there were 44 complaints, 112 traffic contacts, 0 traffic accidents and 2 arrests for the month of March. There has been seen several complaints at the Hesperia Schools, but everything is going as expected. Slocum asked what kind of complaints. He responded by stating that there were assaults, marihuana/tobacco violations, trespassing on top of the school and some drug paraphernalia found on the playground. He reported that Officer Vanderwall was now certified to operate radar. Officer Vanderwall was able to be enrolled in ARIDE training which is advanced training for the detection and prosecution of alcohol and drug driving. There were 2 zoning permits issued. He is concentrating on the old cases of junk/disabled vehicles and had three more residents voluntarily comply.

**DPW Report:** D.P.W. Director, Mike Stanaway reported on water distribution. He said that they started discharging at the WWTP in April. They are working on lowering the levels of the primary and secondary ponds. They are rebuilding and will install flow control valves at the WWTP. He mentioned that the overhead doors at 171 N. Elm were installed last Saturday. There were 27 Miss Digs. Restoration of the public restrooms are underway. There was another incident of damage in the bathroom in the park, They hope to open them this upcoming Friday. The mowing equipment has been prepared for the upcoming season. The artesian well at the swimming hole is in need of repairs. Walker inquired about the spillway repairs. Stanaway stated that when the water levels were lowered, it was discovered that there were muskrat holes around that area. They are working on getting them fixed. They will put large rocks along the edges of the swimming area to get ready for the inspection in August. The International salt truck is not working and the Mahindra is still undergoing repairs at Gelder and Sons.

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Herin

**(motion CARRIED)**

President Farber took a moment to introduce Stephanie Halverson.

Motion to appoint Stephanie Halverson as village trustee for the Hesperia Village Council term ending November, 2022

Ayes: Herin, McDonald, Slocum, Smith, Farber

Nays: Walker

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by McDonald

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2021-03 Off-Road Vehicles

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Walker

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adopt Resolution #2021-02 Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). See Attached.

**Discussion:** McDonald asked for details on what this was for. Walker explained what RRC and that it would make the village eligible for certain grants. Slocum said that they would both be trained and it was a long process.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Slocum

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to work on Master Plan and to contact Ryan Coffey regarding pricing.

**Discussion:** Ryan Coffey is a zoning expert and he is local to Newaygo County and has worked with other municipalities in updating their master plans.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to raise the office personnel wages as follows: Treasurer from \$16.25 to \$17.06, Clerk from \$19.25 to \$19.63 and Janitor from \$11.50 to \$11.60

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Herin

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to raise the police department wages as follows: Part Time officers from \$16.50 to \$17.00, Full Time officers from \$19.00 to \$19.95 and the Chief of Police from \$24.28 to \$24.89

**Discussion:** Walker inquired if this was an annual wage increase. It is. Slocum mentioned that it was a percentage.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Herin

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to raise the DPW Personnel wages as follows: Returning Seasonal from \$10.50 to \$11.00, Part Time from \$14.00 to \$14.49, Full Time from \$20.50 to \$21.53 and the DPW Director from \$23.00 to \$24.15. Starting wage for Seasonal will be \$9.65 and Part Time will be \$12.00.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by McDonald

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to have the Treasurer move forward with adding past due utility payments onto the 2021 Village tax invoices.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Herin

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to partner with the Hesperia Area Chamber of Commerce for this year's Fireworks display in the amount of \$5,000 to \$8,000.

**Discussion:** Herin asked if anyone knew for sure if the Fun Fest was actually going to happen. Not sure due to the COVID surge. Farber explained this would only be a onetime occasin to help out for this year only.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Slocum

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to seek bids to reconfigure the village offices to make it more secure.

**Discussion:** They would like to have someone draw up a design or plans before sending it out for bids. Slocum mentioned that any construction company could draw plans. Walker asked which building. It is for the front part of the Village Offices.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Public Comment:** Debra Pagan asked why she had to sign a form to opt out of the R.T.S. fee when she has already written a letter. She would like old and the new letter attached to the form. She said that the buildings around town are looking rough include broken windows and roofs caving in. President Farber mentioned that there are grants out there that the property owners could apply for. Slocum said that the cost of building materials has sky rocketed in the past year. Debra suggested possibly contacting the local coaches to see if some of the kids would volunteer to do community service. Sheri Hunt inquired if the village could start applying for grants before the RRC process is complete. That is something that can be researched. Tammie Nguyen voiced her opinion that she was mad at the fact that the office personnel was making the same amount of money as our police department. She did not agree with them making \$19.00 per hour. She thought that the police department should be compensated with higher wages. President Farber told her that he appreciated her voicing her opinion.

Diane Schindelback introduced herself and said she worked in Senator Jon Bumstead's office and if there was anything that she could help out with, to contact her or go on his website. She mentioned the committees that Jon was on including Natural Resources and EGLE. President Farber asked about PFAS and EGLE. Slocum said that we should request a meeting with EGLE to get some answers. Chief Herremans inquired about the officers wages and McDonald said that it would be \$1.00 above the starting wage. Chuck Yob made a comment regarding the facility next door and that they would be getting parking lot plans to the chief to look over.

Miscellaneous:

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Herin

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell  
Hesperia Village Clerk