
Village of Hesperia, Michigan
Regular Council Meeting
August 8, 2022
7:30 PM

Call to Order: President Mike 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: Stephanie Halverson, Dan Herin, Joyce McDonald, Jackie Slocum, Jim Smith, Cathy Webster, Mike Farber

Also present: Clerk Burrell, Linda Benedict, Diane Herin, Anna Dukes, Larry Clark, Mackenzie Pennington, Tracy Sumner, Terry Beardsley Jr., Karen Hren, Randy Hren, Loretta Krause, Debra Pagan, Tammie Nguyen, Eileen Homan, Kimba Morse, Todd Laisure, Derek Way and Jenn Way.

Amend the Agenda:

Motion by Farber **Seconded** by McDonald (motion CARRIED)
Motion to amend the agenda to add Hydro Corp Enforcement as item d. under new business.
ALL IN FAVOR

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

Eileen Homan stated that she thought that having chickens in the village is a bad idea. Linda Benedict stated that if the residents wanted chickens, it should be in an agriculture zoned area. She urged the council to be hesitant about allowing chickens. Mackenzie Pennington stated that she approves of having chickens and does not see anything wrong with having them.

Motion by Slocum **Seconded** by Herin (motion CARRIED)
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 11, 2022.
ALL IN FAVOR

Motion by Herin **Seconded** by Smith (motion CARRIED)
Motion to accept the minutes of the Work Session held on July 18, 2022.
ALL IN FAVOR

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Webster (motion CARRIED)
Motion to approve payment of invoices for July 2022 in the amount of \$44,673.41.
ALL IN FAVOR

Announcements/Correspondence: President Farber reported that there had been some vandalism at the dam restrooms, DPW building and the softball tower over the weekend. He also mentioned that the DPW had flushed fire hydrants last week and will flush them again in October. The paving is complete in the village and the DPW is working in the mornings to add gravel to areas on the roads sides. He mentioned that there are a lot of residents who are in noncompliance with the cross connection inspections with Hydro Corp and will discuss more under new business. He also mentioned that the village would like to start mailing our ordinance enforcement letters.

Committee Reports:

A.R.P.A.

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment: Herin reported that he received quotes for the village hall and will talk more about it under new business.

Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance: McDonald stated that a meeting was held and she announced Treasurer Miller's resignation and would like to place ad for a part time Treasurer.

Marihuana:

Ordinance:

Parks:

Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:

Technology & Grants: Halverson reported that she spoke with both counties and they each had a telephone alert system that residents can sign up for. This would include alerts for water boil notices, thunderstorms, etc.

Water & Sewer:

Motion by Herin **Seconded** by Smith **(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept Proposal # 010069 from M. Seng Enterprises for repairs to the back of the village hall in the amount of \$7,745.00.

Yeas: Halverson, Herin, McDonald, Slocum, Smith, Webster, Farber

Nays:

Motion by Herin **Seconded** by Smith **(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the quote from Norberg Masonry for \$2,850.00 to repair the brick on the east end of the village hall.

Discussion: Herin stated that a few sample bricks will be taken so the color can be matched.

Yeas: Halverson, Herin, McDonald, Slocum, Smith, Webster, Farber

Nays:

Slocum spoke regarding the Playground Equipment agenda item. She is waiting for quotes from the manufacturer and the project might go over budget. She mentioned that the freight would be around \$25,000.00. The committee will look into other options and possible some grants. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the revised employment contract DPW agreement.

Discussion: Revisions included adding with just cause by Village President with Village Council approval.

Yeas: Halverson, Herin, McDonald, Slocum, Smith, Webster, Farber

Nays:

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Webster **(motion FAILED)**

Motion to accept the Ordinance Committee's recommendation to move forward with creating an ordinance strictly for chickens and send to the attorney for approval.

Yeas: Herin, Webster,

Nays: Halverson, McDonald, Slocum, Smith, Farber

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Halverson **(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to place ad for a part time Treasurer

ALL IN FAVOR

Motion Slocum Seconded by McDonald

(motion CARRIED)

Motion for ordinance enforcement

Discussion: Farber stated that he had a discussion with the attorney and said the village can enforce the ordinances. The attorney will draft a letter that the village can send out. The attorney will give citations and will go to court.

ALL IN FAVOR

Motion Farber Seconded by McDonald

(motion CARRIED)

Motion for Hydro Corp enforcement

Discussion: Farber explained that the cross connection program that Hydro Corp is doing for the village is a mandatory from the State of Michigan. Letter will be sent out and will have a certain amount of time to get into compliance before the water is turned off.

ALL IN FAVOR

Public Comments:

Debra Pagan mentioned that the bathrooms where the vandalism happened over the weekend were not roped off and it is a hazard. Karen Hren spoke with the county sheriff's office about crime and they commented that the village needs to get a police chief. A discussion was had regarding status updates on posting job openings and offering various incentives. Clyde Crawford inquired about the agreement between the sheriff departments. It was tabled due to the counties not being able to offer the village police officers because of personnel shortages. Mackenzie Pennington commented on possibly looking into getting private security. She also spoke about the chicken ordinance and if it could possibly be put to the residents to vote on it. She was told to check with Oceana County clerk's office on how to get it put on the ballot. A discussion was had about the current animal ordinance and the distance it should be from water sources, buildings, etc.. Anna Dukes inquired about the status of ordinance enforcement. The council responded that no position had been filled. Derek Way commented about communication and the Facebook page. He commented about an imagination playground that was in Kalkaska and it was enclosed and possibly cheaper than the one that the village was looking at. Derek Wy also suggested that the village hire a consultant to help fill the police chief position.

Miscellaneous:

Herin commented that he would miss the September meeting. Halverson stated that the Facebook page is operating. It is for informational purposes only and the comments have been turned off. The page is under MI Village of Hesperia.

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell

Hesperia Village Clerk

“Village of Hesperia is an equal opportunity provider and employer”