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Village of Hesperia, Michigan  
Regular Council Meeting  
September 11, 2023  
7:30 PM

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**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: Don Bostrom, Stephanie Halverson, Dan Herin, Joyce McDonald, Jackie Slocum, Jim Smith, Mike Farber

**Also present:** Clerk Burrell, Steve Micklin, Joann Borgman and Nancy Conley.

President Farber asked the council and audience to observe a moment of silence for the victims of September 11, 2001.

**Amend the Agenda:**

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to amend the agenda to include Newfield Township Recycling as Item d..  
ALL IN FAVOR

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only: Nancy Conley, Newfield Township Clerk, spoke about the recycling center. She said that letters were sent to the neighboring townships including the village asking for a possible contribution towards the monthly fees for recycling disposal. The estimated annual cost is approximately \$36,000.00. She said any donation would be up to each municipality/township to decide what they would like to contribute if anything. She also stated that the center is looking for volunteers to help run it on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

**Motion** by Herin **Seconded** by Halverson (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on August 14, 2023.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for August 2023 in the amount of \$48,539.96  
Discussion: Herin inquired about Tree Tops Products. This is the company that the picnic tables were ordered from.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Announcements/Correspondence:** President Farber talked about the water tower being inspected and that the tower was coming back on line tonight. He also talked about getting some cathodic floats for the tower to help with the iron in the water. President Farber said that he is currently working with EGLE and Fleis & VandenBrink regarding the repairs on the dam. Minor repairs and a new footer will be done sometime in the coming week. He reported that there was an issue with the pumps at the W.W.T.P. and the pumps did not get turned off in time to prevent sludge being pulled in to the pump area. He stated that Environmental Recovery Services were in the village today and worked on the sewer lift station and would schedule another time to come out and work on the W.W.T.P. President Farber said that he is still working on the MDOT grant and is awaiting a response. He stated that the village scored very high on the D.W.S.R.F. grant that was applied for earlier in the year. He said that a meeting would be set up with Fleis & VandenBrink in the near future.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **A.R.P.A.:**

### **Buildings, Grounds & Equipment:**

**Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance):** McDonald reported that a meeting had been held earlier in the day and a seasonal candidate had been interviewed because the previous employee did not work out. The recommendation was to hire Joe Schmiedeknecht at \$11.50. He is a retired master plumber and would only be working from April through October. The Finance committee also met with Scott Gardner from American Class Dumpster to talk about contract renewal. A new contract will be presented to council at the November meeting.

**Ordinance:** Halverson reported that she was half way through the ordinances that need to be changed and she stated that she would reach out to our attorney, John Schrier with questions on how to proceed. McDonald asked the clerk on the status of the updates for the ordinance books. Clerk Burrell will get her an answer before the next council meeting.

**Parks:** Slocum reported that she met with the playground installers and she was given a list of what they thought was incorrect. A group of new installers would be helping out. She hopes that playground will be fixed and opened soon. Slocum gave an update on a meeting that was held regarding island tree removal which the recommendation is to accept Robert Smith's bid of \$2,000.00. She talked about a few projects that bids had been received for including, replacing the roofs on the gazebos, repairing the dug outs and repair and painting of the bridge. Bids were received from Cabin Creek Construction and M. Seng Enterprise. She said that she is abstaining from making a recommendation because of her connection to Cabin Creek and the committee is asking the council to make the decision. Slocum also recommended not to accept the bids for the bleacher repairs and would like to have them replaced with new aluminum bleachers.

### **Technology & Grants:**

**Water & Sewer:** Slocum reported that the Mobile Home Park has two meters and the location would need to be found. Suggesting that a \$10.00 fee per unit be charged as well as usage. Currently, a \$14.50 per unit and no usage is being charged. When she spoke to Joe Milander who is the project manager for the mobile home park, he suggested a possible annexation into the village if it would reduce costs.

### **Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:**

### **Zoning Administrator Report:**

Steve Micklin gave the monthly Zoning Administrator report. He reported that he had issued one permit and had a few less complaints this month. He suggested changing the wording in the ordinance from being a misdemeanor to a civil infraction. This would save the village a few dollars in attorney fees. He stated that residents are getting better at mowing their grass. He said that there are three properties that have several violations and suggested that the council have a meeting and make a decision on how to proceed with them.

### **Unfinished Business:**

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the proposal from Robert Smith to remove the tree from the island in the amount of \$2,000.00

Discussion: Herin inquired about stump removal.

ALL IN FAVOR

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adopt Resolution #2023-12 amending the Village of Hesperia 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

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

Nays:

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to purchase 2 sets of 15 foot bleachers from Park Warehouse not to exceed \$4,000.00 using the ARPA funds  
Discussion: Herin inquired about the current bleachers. Slocum said it was cost effective to replace the wooden ones with new aluminum ones. President Farber commented that volunteers will repair the fields and add diamond dust in the spring prior to the season.  
Yeas: Bostrom, McDonald, Herin, Slocum, Smith, Halverson, Farber  
Nays:

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Halverson **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to accept the proposals from M. Seng Enterprise for park repairs in the amount of \$20,350.00 using the ARPA funds.  
Discussion: Slocum and Halverson visited the sports field and parks and identified areas that needed repairs. Slocum stated that the lighting project in Webster Park would not be completed this year but she hopes that it will be in the budget in the spring. Herin asked if the gazebo at the dam would be repaired and Slocum replied that it would be.  
Yeas: Bostrom, McDonald, Herin, Smith, Halverson, Farber  
Nays:  
Abstain: Slocum

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion for payment to Newfield Township for residence services for the recycling center  
Discussion: a discussion was had about contributing to the new recycling center in Newfield Township. It was stated that even if no contributions were received, the center would still operate for the first year and would be evaluated next year.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Smith **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion for payment to Newfield Township for services rendered for the recycling center for \$1,800.00 for one year.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Public Comments:**

Steve Micklin thanked the Village Council for all of the hard work that has been done for the village. He said that he had family visit and they were very impressed with how our parks looked. Nancy Conley also commented and said that the village council deserves a pat on the back and appreciates all of the work that they are doing.

**Miscellaneous:**

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to adjourn  
ALL IN FAVOR  
Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell  
Hesperia Village Clerk

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