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Village of Hesperia, Michigan  
Regular Council Meeting  
May 13, 2024  
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, Treasurer Borgman, Steve Micklin, David Huntley, Jane Bostrom, Nancy Conley and others not listed.

**Set the Agenda:**

**Motion** by Herin **Seconded** by Halverson (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the agenda as presented.  
ALL IN FAVOR

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Herin (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Work Session held on April 3, 2024.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Bostrom (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 8, 2024.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for April 2024 in the amount of \$126,026.03  
Discussion: Herin inquired why there were two Consumers Energy bills.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for the DWSRF BAN project in the amount of \$543,540.00.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Announcements/Correspondence:**

President Farber introduced Barb Wright from Daisy/Brownie Troop # 8712 and she stated that her troop was working on their democracy badge and wanted to know how government worked at the local level. Miss Jasmine addressed the council and asked if it would be possible to have a new park on the south west side of the village because in order to get to a park, you had to cross over busy streets. The troop collected signatures in support of their project. President Farber thanked them for their time and explained that he would send it to the Parks Committee to determine if it would be possible to have a park on that side of the village.

Jim Draper, owner of 147 N. Division spoke briefly regarding a letter that he had received from Parmenter Law regarding the building located on the south side of his property. He talked about the

improvements that were made to make it look presentable but it would be impossible to comply within the 120 day extension that was given on the property. President Farber explained that he had 120 days to present a plan to the village to determine the future of the building. Mr. Draper stated that he had reached out to the Oceana County Brownfield Authority but had not heard a response back from them. He also stated that he was in the process of speaking with the accessor for Oceana County on possibly splitting the current address into two parcels and he said that he might have someone interested in purchasing that parcel. President Farber stated that as long as progress was being made, the village would make the effort and work with him.

Rhonda Wright from the Hesperia Area Chamber of Commerce introduced herself and said that the village had been generous in the past with donations for the Fourth of July Fireworks. She asked if it was possible for the village to make another donation this year and understood if it was not in the budget. She said that they would like to raise a total of \$20,000 for 2024 so that there would be money to carry over into 2025. She stated that there had been some unexpected expenses with the bridge going to the second island.

Phil Green introduced himself and stated he was there on behalf of the Adam Mercer campaign for Newaygo County Sheriff. He said that Adam was currently working and could not attend the meeting but Phil would speak on his behalf. Adam is a lifelong resident of Newaygo County and worked for the Newaygo County Sheriff's Office for 20 years before retiring. He outlined the four goals that Adam has if he is elected as sheriff of Newaygo County. They are: Increase Community Engagement; Put emphasis on road patrols and reducing crime with drug dealers, serial thieves doing burglaries, stealing cars and larcenies; Improve leadership within the command unit; And rebuilding relationships between the sheriff's department and the four city police departments with improved mutual aid. President Farber announcement that the Village of Hesperia was awarded a \$270,000 grant from EGLE for a feasibility study for the Hesperia Dam.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

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

**Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance):** McDonald said that a meeting was held regarding payment of invoices.

#### **Ordinance:**

#### **Parks:**

**Technology & Grants:** Halverson reported that she is working on a digital box for the announcement tv for the front office.

**Water & Sewer:** Slocum reported that a committee meeting was held regarding 16 N. State in regards to a new hook up to the utility system.

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

**Zoning Administrator Report:** Micklin reported that one permit had been issued and he had met with a few owners regarding new homes. He stated that the home at 54 N. Elm is in the process of being rehabbed by a new owner. A citation was issued to the owner of 270 Hawley and they have made some progress on getting it cleaned up. He is waiting for a date for a trial with the property on Winter Street. He reported that there is a court date set for July for the house on Cook Street. He sent out four letters regarding mowing violations and a lot of home owners have complied and mowed their grass. Slocum asked about the home on Hoskins and if anything can be done about the siding that melted during the fire at the house next door.

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to purchase Property ID # 62-09-30-300-006 from Sara Kraley in the amount of \$60,000.00 for the purpose of placing a new well on it.

Discussion: President Farber said that there were two test wells on the property and the results were good. He said the Kraley family was very generous with the asking price of the property and the village was very thankful for them. Farber stated that they asked for naming rights of a baseball field if one was ever built on the property. He said that the purchase of the property would come out of the Bond Anticipation Note money.

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

Nays:

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Halverson

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to split the cost of the hookup fee invoices totaling \$10,579.19 with the home owner at 16 N. State Street.

Discussion: Farber explained that there was no way to determine the cost of the installation of a new hook up prior to work being completed. He stated that a new ordinance needed to be written to state that the cost of installation should be the sole responsibility of the home owner.

ALL IN FAVOR

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to have the village treasurer place the delinquent water/sewer bills on the 2024 property taxes.

ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Farber **Seconded** by Smith

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the two proposals from White River Excavating in the amount of \$4,625.00 for work in Vida Weaver Park.

Discussion: Farber explained that some trees needed to be cleared to make the parking lot area larger and it would also be graded and stone added.

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

Nays:

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to switch the Village of Hesperia's banking institution from Shelby State Bank to Choice One Bank.

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

Nays:

### **Public Comments:**

Terry Beardsley asked why we were changing banks. President Farber explained some of the reasons for the move.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Herin inquired if the Girl Scouts knew that we did not own any land on that side of the village, Research would be done to see if any property was available for purchase. The tree that is on the island was discussed. It would be researched to see how the job can be completed. McDonald stated that village employee, Ursula Syers had been with the village for 20 years and a celebration was planned for her on Wednesday.

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Herin  
Motion to adjourn  
ALL IN FAVOR  
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

**(motion CARRIED)**

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell  
Hesperia Village Clerk