
Village of Hesperia, Michigan
Regular Council Meeting
February 10, 2025
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: Don Bostrom, Stephanie Halverson, Sheri Hunt, Joyce McDonald, Jennifer Nearanz, Jackie Slocum, Mike Farber

Also present: Clerk Burrell, Steve Micklin, Todd Hren, Jane Bostrom, Bruce Kartes and Terry Beardsley.

Set the Agenda:

Motion by Bostrom **Seconded** by Nearanz
Motion to set the agenda as presented
ALL IN FAVOR

(motion CARRIED)

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

Motion by Nearanz **Seconded** by Halverson
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 13, 2025.
ALL IN FAVOR

(motion CARRIED)

Motion by Hunt **Seconded** by Bostrom
Motion to accept the minutes of the Work Session held on February 6, 2025.
ALL IN FAVOR

(motion CARRIED)

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom
Motion to approve payment of invoices for January 2025 in the amount of \$73,332.13
Discussion: Halverson inquired about what the GEI Consultants invoice was for. Clerk Burrell told her it was for the feasibility study being done on the dam.
ALL IN FAVOR

(motion CARRIED)

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom
Motion to approve payment of invoices for the D.W.S.R.F. project in the amount of \$195,881.00
ALL IN FAVOR

(motion CARRIED)

Announcements/Correspondence:

Committee Reports:

A.R.P.A.:

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment:

Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance): McDonald reported that her and president Farber had met with Oceana County and Newaygo County Sheriff's office regarding them providing services to the village. The meeting was favorable and they will continue to provide coverage to the village. She reported that meetings were held on January 16 and January 23, 2025 regarding the proposed FY budget. She reported that a meeting was held on February 6, 2025 to review monthly invoices and to meet with DPW employees Donald Homfeld and Dustin Homfeld. Recommendations will be discussed under new business.

Ordinance: Halverson stated that she received a grant e-mail from Senator Bumstead's office for a DNR grant. Unfortunately, there had to be items completed prior to February 1st but the committee will start working on getting a parks plan in place for the next round. She also reported that she will contact Julia Turnbull from MEDC to ask for guidance with updating ordinances for the downtown area regarding types of housing etc.

Marihuana:

Parks:

Technology & Grants:

Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:

Water & Sewer:

Zoning Administrator Report:

Micklin commented on Halverson's Ordinance Committee notes and stated that the MEDC is looking for language like smart cities, walkable communities, green spaces and mixed use development. He will offer Halverson guidance. He reported that 1 permit had been issued last month. He said that there were 4 calls and no complaints in the last month. 1 complaint was resolved. There are a few home owners that have orders of clean up and they were given until April 1, 2025 to clean up their properties.

Motion by Slocum Seconded by McDonald (motion CARRIED)

Motion to adopt Resolution #2025-02 to authorize issuance of a Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$425,000.

Discussion: President Farber explained that this was a type of bridge loan that would help the village pay for engineering invoices until the grant was signed later this year.

Yeas: Bostrom, Halverson, Hunt, McDonald, Nearanz, Slocum, Farber

Nays:

Motion by McDonald Seconded by Slocum (motion CARRIED)

Motion to give part time employee, Donald Homfeld the following benefits: paid holidays, 2 ½ days of vacation, 3 sick days, 1 personal day and to increase his wage 3% to be at \$16.38 per hour effective February 10, 2025

Discussion: McDonald stated that Don has been employed for over two years and he has been working 40 hours per week and is a valued employee. He will be left as a part time employee but will receive the above benefits.

ALL IN FAVOR

Motion by McDonald Seconded by Bostrom (motion CARRIED)

Motion to give Dustin Homfeld a \$1.00 per hour raise for obtaining his license for the WWTF effective February 10, 2025.

ALL IN FAVOR

Motion by Slocum Seconded by Halverson (motion FAILED)

Motion to re-introduce the chicken ordinance from March 11, 2024

Discussion: President Farber explained that there had been interest in re-introducing this ordinance. Multiple council members weighed in on the pros and cons of this proposed ordinance.

Yeas: Halverson, Slocum, Farber

Nays: Bostrom, Hunt, Nearanz, McDonald

Motion by McDonald Seconded by Slocum (motion CARRIED)

Motion to enter into a Closed Session to discuss Attorney/Client Confidential Correspondence

ALL IN FAVOR

ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Slocum **Seconded** by Nearanz

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to re-enter into the Regular Council Meeting

Returned into the regular council meeting at 8:24 PM

ALL IN FAVOR

Public Comments:

Bruce Kartes stated that he was incredibly unhappy about the recent utility rate increases. A meeting with Clerk Burrell was set for the following day.

Miscellaneous:

Steve Micklin commented that the DPW was doing a great jobs keeping the village streets clear of snow. A letter from resident Steve Ward was discussed regarding the recent utility rate increases.

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell

Hesperia Village Clerk