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Village of Hesperia, Michigan  
Regular Council Meeting  
July 14, 2025  
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, Sheri Hunt, Joyce McDonald, Jennifer Nearanz, Jackie Slocum, Mike Farber

**Also present:** Clerk Burrell, Steve Micklin, Todd Hren, Kevin Hunt, Joel Catts, Jessica Wood, Dan Herin and Terry Beardsley Jr.

**Amend the Agenda:**

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to amend the agenda to include Item i. hire police chief and Item j. to purchase a Kubota for DPW.  
ALL IN FAVOR

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Hunt (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 9, 2025.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Bostrom (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Work Session held on July 10, 2025.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Nearanz (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for June 2025 in the amount of \$91,216.89.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for the C.W.S.R.F. project in the amount of \$152,250.00.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Announcements/Correspondence:**

President Farber thanked Cub Scout Pack #4133 for all of their hard work in helping the village do clean up on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. He specifically wants to thank Leader Randy Ackley for organizing the clean up with his pack. A special thank you to parents Cheyenne Rodriguez, Ashley Tice and Brittany Rich and their sons. Vicki Burrell announced that there would be two concerts call Hesperia Live and Local and encouraged the council to attend. Slocum stated that some research had been done on purchasing a boom truck. Slocum and Hunt said the prices ranged from \$20,350 to \$89,900. Slocum stated that she wanted to go on record that she researched the request made by a village resident at the last meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

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

**Buildings, Grounds & Equipment:**

**Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance):** McDonald reported that a meeting had been held on June 23, 2025 regarding DPW employee and it would be discussed under new business. She also stated that a meeting had been held on July 10, 2025 to approve invoices and had an interview with a candidate for the police chief. This also would be discussed under new business.

**Ordinance:** McDonald commented that she would like the ordinance committee to review the current ordinances and possibly put something in place to prevent any buildings in the downtown area to be used as storage.

Parks:

**Technology & Grants:** Nearanz stated that she had registered with the RRC training from MEDC. She also stated that she would be taking over the Facebook page in Stephanie's absence and said that she would be posting more content, including hydrant flushing, meeting agenda, brush pickup etc.

**Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:**

**Zoning Administrator Report:**

Steve Micklin reported that there were 6 new inquires, 1 complaint and 1 permit had been issued. He said that he sent out 9 letters for ordinance violations. He stated that one case had been resolved. He stated that the owner on State Street complied with court order to clean up the yard. He stated that there was some work going on at a few houses in the village.

**DPW Supervisor Report:**

Todd Hren reported that the Fourth of July event went well and all of the workers deserved a pat on the back for going above their regular duties. He reported that the water main project was moving along rapidly and that the service line replacements was moving along at a moderate pace. He said that they had been discharging out at the sewer site for the past 2 ½ months. He said that the big brush pile has been burned.

**Motion by Slocum Seconded by McDonald**

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the proposals from Hydro Corp in the amount of \$21,762.90.

Discussion: President Farber explained that after the current water project is completed, Hydro Corp would no longer be needed and the contract might be able to terminated early.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

**Motion by McDonald Seconded by Slocum**

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to exercise the village's first right of refusal and purchase Parcel #09-30-325-002 and Parcel # 09-30-325-003 from the Newaygo County Treasurer in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.

Discussion: President Farber had Clerk Burrell explain purchasing the two parcels that border the village hall to the east. She explained that it would be a transfer directly from the Newaygo County Treasurer to the village. When a property is sold on tax sale, it does not come with a title so a title search will need to be performed. A discussion was had about getting the property appraised and if the appraisal was less than \$50,000, the Newaygo County Treasurer will sell it at the cost of the appraisal.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

Motion to move Don Homfeld from a part time DPW employee to a to a full time DPW employee with benefits including raising his wage to \$18.00 per hour. The CDL requirement is being waived for this individual only unless he wants to pursue obtaining one.

**Discussion:** A discussion was had about waiving the requirements. McDonald explained that we still have coverage in the winter because we have two employees that have their CDL licenses.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

Motion to adopt Resolution # 2025-10 Sanitary Sewer System Revenue Bonds.

**Discussion:** Jessica Wood from Dickinson Wright gave a brief description of the resolution to purchase Sanitary Sewer System Revenue Bonds. The amount will not exceed 6.5 Million and the principal forgiveness is 1.240 Million.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

Motion to adopt Resolution # 2025-11 Option #2 for Sewer and Water Rate & Charges.

**Discussion:** There was a work session held the previous week and there were no questions.

**Roll Call**

Yeas: Hunt, McDonald, Nearanz, Slocum, Farber

Nays: Bostrom

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

Motion to adopt Resolution # 2025-12 Tentatively Award a construction Contract for Wastewater Systems Improvements.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

Motion to adopt Resolution # 2025-13 to impose property tax penalty fees.

**Roll Call**

Yeas: Bostrom, Hunt, McDonald, Farber

Nays: Nearanz, Slocum

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

Motion to hire Joel Catts as part time police chief for the Hesperia Police Department.

**Discussion:** Joel Catts was present at the council meeting and answered some of the council's questions. He talked about the Lien and that it should take around 3 months to get it to be active. At this time, this position is a part time position with around 20 hours per week. It could possibly turn into a full time position at a later date. President Farber stated that Joel has the blessing of the Newaygo County Sheriff and that we still would be using the counties to provide police services to the village until the police department is active.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to hire Joel Catts at \$29.00 per hour for the part time police chief position with a minimum of 20 hours per week.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to purchase a Kubota from Pell's for \$18,000.00.

Discussion: President Farber asked DPW supervisor to speak on the purchase. Todd Hren explained that we had two Kubota rentals over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the one that has four seats somehow got damaged. The cost to repair it and the rental was almost \$3,000.00. This vehicle would be used for summer use only and it will take pressure off the current orange Kubota that we use for winter use.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Hunt

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the proposal from Mike Rosema Masonry in the amount of \$4,880.00.

**Discussion:** Slocum inquired why the bids were not sent to the parks committee. President Farber stated that it was discussed at the last meeting. McDonald asked about the slab for the Port-O-Jon area.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

**Public Comments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell

Hesperia Village Clerk