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Village of Hesperia, Michigan  
Regular Council Meeting  
March 09, 2026  
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, Dan Herin, Sheri Hunt, Joyce McDonald, Jennifer Nearanz, Jackie Slocum, Mike Farber  
**Also present:** Clerk Burrell, Todd Hren, Steve Micklin, Joshua Rose and Colene Rose

**Amend the Agenda:**

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to amend the agenda to include item c. Dam Design  
ALL IN FAVOR

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Bostrom **(motion RESCINDED)**  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 9, 2026.

**Motion** by Slocum **Seconded** by Bostrom **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 9, 2026 amending the minutes to reflect the removal of Halverson and the addition of Herin on multiple motions.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Motion** by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum **(motion CARRIED)**  
Motion to approve payment of invoices for February in the amount of \$39,950.57.  
ALL IN FAVOR

**Announcements/Correspondence:**

**Committee Reports:**

**Buildings, Grounds & Equipment:**

**Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance):** McDonald reported that a meeting had been held on February 10, 2026 regarding the crossing guards and the recommendation was for the crossing guards to remain employees of the village. Another meeting was held on February 18, 2026 regarding the crossing guards. MDOT was present and suggested lights and new signage. A meeting was held on March 5, 2026 to approve invoices and the FY 2026/2027 Budget. The recommendation was to approve the invoices and have the council review budget and adopt it.

**Ordinance:** McDonald reported that a meeting had been held on March 5, 2026 and various ordinances were reviewed.

**Parks:**

**Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:** President Farber stated that he had met with GEI and others regarding the scope of the dam project.

**Technology & Grants:** Nearanz stated that she had reported at last month's meeting regarding the AT & T lease.

**Water & Sewer:**

**Police Chief Report:**

Chief Catts was absent due to being out on a call in the village. The police activity report was passed out and reviewed. President Farber introduced the village's new part time officer, Joshua Rose. He spoke about himself and his background. He currently lives in Luther and was previously employed by the Benton Harbor and St. Joseph police departments. He has 14 years experience in law enforcement. He also worked at the fire department and is a medical first responder.

**Zoning Administrator Report:**

Micklin reported that there had been 5 inquires and 6 letters had been sent out. No permits had been issued and no complaints taken.

**DPW Supervisor Report:**

Hren gave an update on the water project. He stated that the main on Lizzie Avenue was being installed tomorrow. There were two crews from Jackson Merkey working on Michigan Avenue in preparation of the new water main installation. Ryerson Brothers has increased their pace and are working steadily towards the completion deadline in June. He stated that the DPW was closing out the winter season and getting equipment and the parks ready for spring. The newly purchased Sterling dump truck is working out great and he suggested that a new dump box be purchased for it sometime in the next year. Slocum inquired when brush pickup would begin. Brush pickup starts in April. Herin inquired about the water main being installed on Sunset. Hren stated that there was only a small portion that would be installed on Sunset from Munn Street to Lizzie Avenue. Nearanz inquired if a new meter had been ordered for her residence. It has been ordered and will be installed once it arrives. McDonald inquired about the restoration of the yards on Munn Street. Jackson Merkey will start the yard restorations in the spring. President Farber stated that the easements for the Iron Removal Plant had been signed for Consumers by the Village and by Denver Township. The plant should come online sometime in April.

**Motion by McDonald Seconded by Herin**

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adopt Resolution #2026-02 A resolution to adopt the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year's Annual Budget.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

**Motion by McDonald Seconded by Slocum**

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adopt Federal Awards Administration policies and procedures as presented.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to accept the proposal from GEI Consultants for the Hesperia Dam Rehabilitation Design, Permitting and Grant Services in the amount of \$999,440 and to authorize President Mike Farber to sign the proposal and to be the point of contact for the Village of Hesperia during the design and permitting stage.

Discussion: At the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting the council voted to select Alternative #2 as the dam design and to move with to pursue funding for design, permitting and obtaining grants. An RFP was sent out on January 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a bid tour on February 12<sup>th</sup>. The RFP's were due on March 5<sup>th</sup> and GEI Consultants was the only firm that submitted a proposal. The funding will come from Grants that GEI will help us obtain and a large percentage of the 10% match will come from Great Lakes Fisheries Commission. This will be contingent on receiving grants to fund the project.

President Farber stated that the natural fish passage will depend on the agreement with the property owner.

**Roll Call**

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

Nays:

**Public Comments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Slocum inquired about the public automated call system and asked if the village was going to move forward with it. Clerk Burrell stated that the office is gathering names and telephone numbers for the auto calls.

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

**(motion CARRIED)**

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell  
Hesperia Village Clerk