
Village of Hesperia, Michigan
Regular Council Meeting
May 11, 2026
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, Dan Herin, Joyce McDonald, Jennifer Nearanz, Jackie Slocum, Mike Farber
Absent: Sheri Hunt
Also present: Clerk Burrell, Todd Hren, Steve Micklin, Joel Catts, Jane Bostrom, Debra Pagan, Tammie Nguyen, Melissa Upton, Cammie Hussey, Cyndie Miller, Linda Cunningham and Terry Beardsley, Jr.

Amend the Agenda:

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom (motion CARRIED)
Motion to amend the agenda to include item d. 2026 millage rate.
ALL IN FAVOR
Absent: Hunt

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items only:

Motion by Slocum **Seconded** by Nearanz (motion CARRIED)
Motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 13, 2026.
ALL IN FAVOR
Absent: Hunt

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum (motion CARRIED)
Motion to approve payment of invoices for April 2026 in the amount of \$48,481.03.
ALL IN FAVOR
Absent: Hunt

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom (motion CARRIED)
Motion to approve payment of invoices for the D.W.S.R.F. project in the amount of \$917,846.91.
ALL IN FAVOR
Absent: Hunt

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 \$90,298.70.
ALL IN FAVOR
Absent: Hunt

Announcements/Correspondence:

President Farber read the following notice to the public for all of the assistance we received during the Dam Flooding event on April 15, 2026 “The village council would like to thank everyone for the tremendous outpouring of help, assistance and kindness that was shown to the village and surrounding areas during the emergency that happened at the Hesperia Dam. We especially would like to thank the Hesperia Area Fire Department, Ferry Fire Department, Abby Watkins and Troy Maloney from Newaygo and Oceana County Emergency Services, Oceana Road Commission, Oceana and Newaygo County Sheriff’s department, Michigan State Police, EGLE, DNR, MDOT, our team of engineers (Fleis & VandenBrink and GEI Consultants), the Hesperia Baseball team, Ben Ambrose and Big Skinny’s. A huge thank you to all of our staff including the DPW, police department and council members and all of the unsung heroes for standing by us and giving help and guidance where needed. If we inadvertently have forgotten to list anyone who helped, we sincerely apologize. It truly takes a village to get through a crisis like this and we are so grateful to belong to a wonderful community!” Clerk Burrell mentioned that an e-mail was received by Steven Ward regarding the restoration of his lawn at 195 Smith Street.

Committee Reports:**Buildings, Grounds & Equipment:**

Finance & Personnel (Legal & Insurance): McDonald reported that the committee met on May 7, 2026 to approve monthly invoices.

Ordinance: McDonald reported that a meeting had been held on May 4, 2026 to discuss the animal ordinance, fee schedule and business license. The changes will be sent to the lawyer for review.

Parks:**Streets, Sidewalks & Dam:****Technology & Grants:****Water & Sewer:****Police Chief Report:**

Chief Catts reported that there was a total of 174 calls for Hesperia that were responded to by himself and Oceana and Newaygo counties. He said that there were 83 traffic stops. On May 21, 2026, the new part time officer will begin his training with Joel and it will be two weeks. He stated that he had completed 63 policies for the police department and they had been vetted from the chief of Newaygo and our legal counsel. He stated that his police training was going well and that he would graduate in June. He reported that the police equipment is in good shape.

Zoning Administrator Report:

Steve Micklin reported that 1 demolition permit and 1 regular permit had been issued. He stated that there had been 2 complaints and 10 letters had been sent out. He said that he had received 8 calls inquiring about building or people moving to Hesperia. The fence removal on State Street needs to be removed by the end of the week or he would have to go back to court to get an order to have it removed. He reported that there had been a meeting with Frontier Communications regarding bringing fiber optic cable into the village. He stated that he had issued a permit to approve the remodeling of an old business and creating five new apartments.

DPW Supervisor Report:

Todd Hren reported that the water mains were almost complete and the contractors were working on getting the tie ins completed. He said that road restoration on Michigan would begin later this week. He reported that his department is working on getting the fence re-installed at the dam. The Iron Removal Plant had a set back and it will be another 3 weeks before it is in operation. He stated that the concrete pad was poured for the generator and that would be installed soon.

Motion by Slocum **Seconded** by McDonald

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to rent a bounce house for the Live and Local concert series for three events for \$165.00 each totaling \$495.00.

Discussion: Slocum stated that it would be from Freddie's Fun party rental. Slocum stated that it included pickup and delivery. McDonald inquired if it included a staff member to monitor it and Slocum said that it did not and that she would look for volunteers. Herin inquired if it kept the kids Busy and Slocum said that it did.

ALL IN FAVOR

Absent: Hunt

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to adopt the finalized Village of Hesperia Police Department policies.

Discussion: Chief Catts stated that there were 63 policies in a binder on the council table for the members to look at if desired. He told the council members to let him know if they had any questions.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Hunt

Motion by Slocum **Seconded** by McDonald

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to have the Village Treasurer place the delinquent water/sewer bills on the tax bill for the 2026 tax season.

Discussion: Herin inquired of how many there were. Treasurer Borgman stated that there were on two properties.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Hunt

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Bostrom

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to adopt the 2026 millage rate of 12.7999.

Discussion: Herin inquired what the rate was for last year. Clerk Burrell stated that it was 13.1376, and the rate for 2024 was 13.4058 and the rate for 2023 was for 13.8162. She explained that the millage rate has decreased each year over a period of 3 years. She stated that the taxes would still increase but not as much if the millage rate were higher.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Hunt

Public Comments:

Melissa Upton inquired about the drain on Michigan Avenue. She stated that her home had flooded and had 8 feet of water in it. President Farber stated that he had helped Newaygo County Drain Commission out and cleaned out the drain the night of the flood to clear any debris that was blocking the drain. He stated that if she had any questions, that she should contact Dale Twing from the Drain Commission's office. Debra Pagan asked for an update on yard restoration. She also inquired about the fence being removed on M-20 and State because it was blocking the clear vision area. Cammie Hussey inquired on how to get a neighboring property condemned. She was told to inquire with the local health department. Tammie Nguyen stated that her water service had been replaced and that she was not happy with the condition that the construction crew left her basement in. She showed photos to the council members. Clerk Burrell took her phone number and said that she would have someone for the engineering team contact her tomorrow to discuss the issues she was having.

Miscellaneous

Motion by McDonald **Seconded** by Slocum

(motion CARRIED)

Motion to adjourn

ALL IN FAVOR

Absent: Hunt

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki R. Burrell

Hesperia Village Clerk