 Regular Council Meeting – Monday, June 5, 2023

Council Present: Jason Blemaster, Cathy Feighner, Jerilou Gallagher, Jim Mayer, Bob Sali & Rick Wilson

Also, Present: Janell Dunham, Julie Henry & John Ney

Motioned by Jason Blemaster, seconded by Jim Mayer, to accept the May 6, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS 0 – NAYS

Motioned by Jason Blemaster, seconded by Rick Wilson to accept the agenda, with the addition of C: purchasing a new clock for the meeting room. Motion carried. 6 - YEAS 0 - NAYS

Motioned by Jim Mayer, seconded by Jason Blemaster accept the transaction report. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS 0 – NAYS

Motioned by Jim Mayer, seconded by Cathy Feighner, to pay the current bills along with the invoice to Elhorn Engineering, Michigan Rural Water Association, T. H. Eifert & Blemaster Plumbing & Heating. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS 0 – NAYS

**DPW**

Hydrant flush was done and went well.

The new scale is in.

Railroad Street chip seal will be starting in July.

Michigan Stripping will be stripping the roads, business area and the fog seal.

John & Jim have been watering the grass and a fertilizer treatment soon (4 weeks after seeding). John indicated that a couple spots that may need some dirt and more seed.

Has not heard yet on when Haynes has us on schedule for the basketball hoops to be installed.

Bubble on the playground equipment has been replaced.

Banners that are hanging at the ball field have been donated.

Keeping the weeds maintained in the ditch at the lagoon.

Sieler’s will be starting on some more dyke erosion repair.

Robinson Street generator is up and running. Gas pressure was high but has been fixed.

No quote yet for the water meters.

John spoke about a 6 – 8-month rotating truck purchase. He will be researching again and should be little to no cost. The red truck is a 2021 with 18,000 miles. The new one will be an extended cab.

John wants the council to think about possibly keeping the red truck to replace the blue truck as it is in rough shape. Cab corners are gone, missing a quarter panel.

**COMPTROLLER**

Julie spoke about the 3-year audit proposal from Gabridge. Jason Blemaster made a motion to stay with Gabridge for the next 3 years, seconded by Rick Wilson. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS 0 – NAYS

Jason Blemaster made a motion to accept the DPW Director contract with the new verbiage, seconded by Jim Mayer. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS 0 – NAYS

Jason Blemaster made a motion to accept the Comptroller contract with the new verbiage, seconded by Rick Wilson. Motion carried. 6 – YEAS -0 – NAYS

Julie received a complaint concerning a pit bulldog and installation on a pool, with research done on both subjects she emailed the resident back. While doing the research it was brought up that we cannot discriminate against a dog breed as it is up to animal control or police officer to determine if the dog is vicious or not, therefore the village Ordinance 119 will need to be amended. An amended ordinance was drawn up, but the council thought that this should have been revised back in 2008 – 2010, so the discussion and amendment was tabled, and Julie will research in the past minutes to see where the amendment was determined.

Julie spoke about the shut-off notices that were delivered at the end of May with the amount of $11,068.00. Jim Mayer made a motion to send out certified letters to all residents that have balances for 6 months or more that this balance must be paid in full by July 31st at 12:00 noon or they will be shut off. If shut off, there will be a $25.00 turn on fee and will have to be paid in full of cash or debit/credit card to have turned back on, seconded by Bob Sali. Motion carried.

Trash rate was to be discussed at this meeting and Julie updated the council that there is no need for an increase at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

GESA (Gratiot Emergency Services Authority) Meeting Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 8:00 am in Ithaca.

It was brought up that the grass needs to be mowed under the boats in the back of M 57 Motor Sports and that there is a trailer chained to the stop sign. Julie will email Diane and let her know of these concerns.

Cathy Feighner stated that she was asked by her neighbor if he could remove some trees on the tree line of his property. If the trees are on the resident’s property and not on the village property, they are able to remove.

No further business, motion to adjourn by Bob Sali, seconded by Jason Blemaster. Motion carried