

President Wetherbee called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: President Wetherbee and Trustees: Stoffel, Cook, Gale, Gremel, Myers, Harper

Absent Members: None

Staff Present: Clerk- Joni Scott, Community Liaison- Cindy Edmondson, Harbor Master- Susan Holtz and DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

The minutes from the December 5, 2019 meeting were accepted as submitted with a correction to the Parks and Trails Committee date.

Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):

None

Correspondence:

Anne Harper- letter regarding 4th Street road end and comments made by attorney Oehmke.
Olson, Bzdok & Howard- letter regarding 4th Street
Brovins & Oehmke- letter dated December 24, 2019 and letter dated January 4, 2020 regarding 4th Street.

Public Comment:

Don Sheets, Fourth Street- made comments about the 4th Street Road end.

Greg King, Purkis Road- made comments regarding his search for the Land Use permit for 227 Fourth Street.

Reports:

- A. **Liaison-** Cynthia Edmondson reported that the new Village of Northport website was up and running. Edmondson also requested authorization to purchase Office Suite with unlimited storage. The Council agreed by consensus.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott reviewed her written financial report with the Council.
- C. **Treasurer** – Treasurer Scripp’s provided a written report for December.
- D. **DPW-** Superintendent Chris Holton provided a written report.
Highlights of his report included:
 1. All Bubblers lines have been inspected and repaired, ready for use
 2. Actively working with Homewood Cottage Association to upgrade their municipal water supply.
 3. Working with Pat Machin to gather information to elevate C dock.
- D. **Employee Relations** – Wetherbee reported that the committee met and discussed Community Liaison, Cindy Edmondson’s six month evaluation, a recommendation of 2.8% COLA raise for all village employees. The Committee also heard concerns regarding a perceived lack of uniformity in the way Zoning Administrator Bill Fuller enforced zoning regulations.
The minutes from the December 11, 2019 Employee Relations Committee were provided.

- E. **Finance-** Minutes from the December 11, 2019 Finance Committee meeting were provided. The Committee has been working on the 2020-21 budget and preliminary discussion for funding the marina project.
- F. **Infrastructure-** Minutes from the December 18, 2019 Infrastructure meeting were provided. Discussions included but were not limited to; the need for an ADA compliant ramp at the New Bohemian, Homewood Cottages Association water main extension and potential moving of hydrant on 5th Street.
- G. **Waterfront-** Harbor Master Susan Holtz provided a written report to the Council. Highlights included discussions about:
1. Webinar training for the Central Reservation System
 2. Replacement of life rings
- Minutes from the December 17, 2019 Waterfront Committee meeting were provided.
- H. **Planning Commission:** Commissioner Jane Gale provided the Council with a written report from the December 17, 2019 planning commission meeting. Some discussions included; review of zoning articles 19-23 and a report from Gerald S Schatz regarding the 7th Street DPW property.
- I. **Parks and Trails:** The Parks and Trails Committee has agreed to discontinue regular meetings until March of 2020.

Discussion Items:

Six- month pay increase for Community Liaison per employment agreement:

President Wetherbee explained that Cindy Edmondson had received a glowing six month review and suggested a 2% pay increase for the Community Liaison position.

Action Items:

2.8 % COLA for Village Employees:

Trustee Cook **Moved Supported by** Trustee Stoffel to approve a 2.8% COLA raise for all village employees. **Discussion:** The Council had some discussion about whether this raise included the Zoning Administrator. Trustee Cook **amended** his motion to read for all employees except the Zoning Administrator whose contract will be reviewed separately.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Myers to approve a \$2,000 raise for the Cindy Edmondson, Community Liaison per her six month evaluation.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Harbormaster Contract:

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve the 2020 Harbor Master Contract at \$53,970 which includes a 2.8% increase.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Authorize Advantage Electric as Supplier for marina work.

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Stoffel to approve the \$6,000 estimate for designing and assisting Nealis Engineering as the supplier for the marina work.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Trustee Gremel **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve the \$11,500 quote from Nealis for designing the electrical plans for the marina.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Payment of Bills:

Trustee Stoffel **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Myers to approve payment of the bills when funds become available in the amount of \$80,830.58

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried**

Public Comments:

Don Sheets, Fourth Street- asked the Council to assign a different person to discuss matters with the Village Attorney rather than Mr. Harper.

Greg King, Purkiss Rd- Commented on the great Council

Council Comments:

Trustee Cook- commended Dave Tompkins, DPW on the well written letter in the Leelanau Enterprise about Northport.

Trustee Harper-wanted to make it very clear that he is not the liaison/communicator to the Village attorney with regards to 4th Street.

Clerk Scott- clarified that she and Mrs. Edmondson handle all the communications with the village attorney.

Adjournment:

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 8:23 pm

Several Citizens attended.

**Joni I. Scott, Village of Northport
Clerk**