

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, DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Trustee Gale Moved, Supported by Trustee Cook to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2020 regular Council meeting. Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Motion Carried.

Trustee Harper Moved, Supported by Trustee Myers to approve the Special meeting minutes from May 1, 2020 Special meeting. Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Motion Carried.

Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):

None

Correspondence:

Bob Heyden- Ads regarding marijuana.

Public Comment:

None

Clarification of Ballot Language- Ross Hammersley:

Village Attorney, Ross Hammersley discussed the referendums over Ordinance 124 (allowing medical marihuana facilities) and 125 (allowing recreational marihuana establishments) and the complaint filed against Clerk Scott and Village Council.

Mr. Hammersley provided a resolution of acknowledgement and support of Village Clerk’s approval of ballot language pertaining to Village Recreational Marihuana Ordinance.

The Council had a brief discussion regarding “conflicts of interest” and trustees’ involvement with the referendums.

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Myers to adopt the following resolution;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2018 (MCL §333.27951, *et seq.*), was initiated by the voters of the State of Michigan pursuant to Proposal 1, the Marijuana Legalization Initiative, on November 6, 2018 (the “Act”); and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes individuals to petition to initiate an ordinance to completely prohibit marihuana establishments within a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Village has received petitions submitted by qualified electors within the Village in a number greater than 5% of the votes cast for governor within the Village at the last gubernatorial election in accordance with the Act seeking approval of an ordinance to repeal the Village’s presently existing Ordinance No. 125 (the Recreational Marijuana Establishments Ordinance) and replace it with a new ordinance to prohibit recreational marijuana establishments of any kind within the Village; and

WHEREAS, Michigan’s election law (MCL §168.646a(2)) requires the ballot wording of any ballot question that is to be voted on at a regular election by qualified electors in the Village to be certified to the county clerk no later than 4 pm on the twelfth Tuesday before the election; and

WHEREAS, the following ballot wording was previously provided to the Village Clerk through an agreement reached in communications between legal counsel to the petitions’ proponents and the Village’s legal counsel:

Shall the Village of Northport repeal Village Ordinance No. 125 (the Recreational Marijuana Establishments Ordinance) and replace it with a new ordinance that would completely prohibit recreational marijuana establishments in the Village of Northport as those establishments are defined in the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (Initiated Law 1 of 2018)?

WHEREAS, the Village Clerk is prepared and intends to fulfill the duties of her office under the Michigan Election Law (Public Act 116 of 1954; MCL §168.1 *et seq.*), the General Law Village Act (Public Act 3 of 1895; MCL §61.1 *et seq.*), the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (Initiated Law 1 of 2018; MCL §333.27951 *et seq.*), and other applicable Michigan law to certify the language set forth above to the County Clerk of Leelanau County for placement on the ballot for the next regular election in the Village (being November 3, 2020); .

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (6) Nays (0) Abstained (1) Trustee Stoffel Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

Reports:

A. **Liaison-** Cynthia Edmondson reported on the following items;

1. Scheduled the Spring Cleanup for June 6, 2020
2. She and Clerk Scott have attended several Michigan Municipal League webinars about reopening your community.

Ms. Edmondson recommended creating an ad-hoc committee to begin discussing new policies and procedures for opening up the village parks and marina. President Wetherbee assigned; Gale, Myers and himself to the ad-hoc committee.

B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott reviewed her written financial report with the Council.

Scott also provided the Council with a copy of the current assessed values which is 70,335,200 total Real and Personal Property.

C. **Treasurer** – None.

D. **DPW-** Superintendent Chris Holton reported on the following items;

1. 45th Parallel Marine will have the east wall repairs completed by Tuesday and will be heading to another job for the next two weeks.
2. Continued Cleanup of the 7th Street DPW site
3. Bridge Flower boxes are painted
4. increased flow at the treatment plant from residential sump-pumps pumping ground water. Holton reminded everyone that it is “not allowed” and considered a cross-connection.
5. Quarterly PFAS testing results came back non-detect for the second time.

D. **Employee Relations** – None

E. **Finance-** Minutes from the March 11, 2020 Finance Committee meeting was provided.

F. **Infrastructure-** Concerns over new LED lighting bulbs installed by Consumers Energy. DPW Superintendent Chris Holton will look into getting a shield. Trustee Gale reported that she spoke to Consumers last fall regarding the bright LED lights. Gale reported that the Dark Sky committee is willing to get involved in a dialog with Consumers.

G. **Waterfront-** Harbor Master Susan Holtz updated the Council that the Northport Harbor does not have to follow the State Harbor current guidelines for opening.

H. **Planning Commission:** None

I. Parks and Trails: Mike Stoffel questioned whether the Village should be closing the parks and trails. President Wetherbee doesn't feel that there is any need to close off the parks or trails and that everyone should use safety precautions.

It was reported that hand washing stations are going to be provided for the Farmers Market every Friday.

Discussion Items:

Levy Property:

President Wetherbee reported that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and some health issues Pete Pickard (village selected appraiser) has had, the appraisal has not been completed but is scheduled in the next couple of weeks to be done.

Itemization of Costs for the Around the Corner Food Truck:

The Finance Committee will review the costs and make a recommendation to the Council.

Planning Commission Appointments:

The Council agreed to post the vacancy in the Leelanau Enterprise, Post Office and Village website. The posting will have a deadline of May 28th, 2020. Trustee Harper supported Laura Cavendish to fill the vacancy stating that she attends all the meetings and is very informed.

Note: Ms. Cavendish has submitted a letter of interest to the Council to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission.

Reschedule July and October Meetings:

The Board agreed by consensus to move the July and October regular Council meeting dates by one week. July 9, 2020 and October 8, 2020 are the new meeting dates.

Waive late fees for April water bills:

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to waive the late fees for the water bills for the April quarterly billing. Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Motion Carried.

Light Pole banners for graduating Northport senior:

The Northport Public School would like to display the

Trustee Gremel **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cook to support the banners for the Northport graduates 2020 class. Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Motion Carried.

Fourth of July Celebration:

Trustee Gremel Moved, Supported by Trustee Gale to cancel the 2020 Fourth of July Celebration. Discussion: Clerk Scott noted that the Village may still be required to pay for the fireworks, but that they could be used next year.

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

Action Items:

Purchase Zoom Pro for Community Liaison Cindy Edmondson:

Trustee Gale **Moved Supported by** Trustee Myers to approve the purchase of a Zoom Pro account. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) Absent (0) **Motion Carried.**

Payment of Bills:

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve payment of the bills for the month of March when funds become available in the amount of \$30,952.67

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

Trustee Myers **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve payment of the bills for the month of April when funds become available in the amount of \$48,379.38

Discussion: Trustee Harper stated that he had not seen the bill sheet for April and felt he should refrain from voting.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (6) Nays (0) Absent (0) Abstained (1) Harper **Motion Carried**

Public Comments:

Fred Steffens, Fourth Street- made comments about the Around the Corner Food Truck expenses.

Terry Gremel, Fourth Street- announced the Memorial Day Taps gift to the Community from the Northport Community Band.

Laura Cavendish, Plum Lane- clarified that she was not the one submitting the reimbursement request for the Land Use Permit and that it was the Radeke's.

Council Comments:

Trustee Harper- commented about the Village's Zoning Administrator job performance and the reasons for the reimbursement request from the Radeke's.

Adjournment:

Trustee Stoffel Moved, Supported by Trustee Gremel to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 11:25 am

Several Citizens attended via phone.

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

