

President Wetherbee called the meeting to order via zoom at 10:00 A.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:

The June 4, 2020 regular Council meeting were accepted as presented.

The Special meeting minutes from June 8, 2020 Special meeting were accepted as presented

Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):

President Wetherbee asked to move Don and Mitch from Consumers Energy tree discussion to the beginning of the meeting.

Correspondence:

Amanda Kruk- Letter regarding the Planning Commission Chair comments.

Public Comment:

Laura Cavendish- reported on the Around the Corner Food and Fun site and construction plans for the upcoming weeks. Cavendish also questioned when the next Employee Relations Committee was going to meet and encouraged the Council to choose a Planning Commission member based on experience not gender.

Jim Allen- questioned why action item A- Approve survey of Rose Street, was on the agenda and if the public would have a chance to speak.

Tree Trimming by Consumers Energy:

Mitch Cleland and Don Froncheck discussed options for trimming or removal of the trees that are marked in the utility right-away. A meeting between Village officials and Mitch and Don will be scheduled to do a walk around next week.

Reports:

- A. **Liaison-** Cynthia Edmondson reported on the following items;
 1. Thanks, and appreciation from the Leelanau Library for the parking space for drive ups and drop offs.
 2. Positive feedback on the banners around town.
 3. The Girls Scouts have raised enough money for the trash receptacle to be placed out in front of the Pennington store.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott provided written financial report with the Council.
Scott also noted the Update on Judge Elsenheimer’s Opinion in Northport *CAWS v Clerk of Village of Northport* from Ross Hammersley highlighting that the claims made in the Plaintiffs’ lawsuit have been dismissed.
- C. **Treasurer** – Treasurer Scripps provided a financial report for the month of June.
- D. **DPW-** Superintendent Chris Holton reported on the following items;

1. Perison Technical Drilling has completed the soil borings on the Homewood Cottage Association
2. Kal Excavating has completed the installation of 2 new water service lines on 5th Street.
3. Winter preparation on snow plow and trucks.
4. Rental of excavator to work on repairs to the dam and adding rip-rap to Fourth Street and Haserot Park.

D. Employee Relations – Steve Wetherbee reported that the he will be scheduling a meeting soon.

E. Finance- The Finance Committee recommended the approval of hiring JFK Land Surveying and Jeff Simsa from Gosling Czubak Engineering Science, Inc. to prepare the wetland delineation and environmental phase 1.

F. Infrastructure- The minutes from the June 17, 2020 were provided.

G. Waterfront- Harbor Master Susan Holtz provided a written report to the Council. Holtz reported a busy start to July. The Council discussed transient boaters and the use of bathrooms. The Waterfront Committee will discuss at their next meeting.

H. Planning Commission: The Planning Commission met on June 17, they heard a presentation from Daniel Caudil regarding a marijuana dispensary and elected their officers. Bill Collins recognition of time served on the Planning Commission was read by Jane Gale. President Wetherbee would like to write a letter thanking him for his service, and the board agreed to ordering a plaque.

I. Parks and Trails: met on June 15, 2020. The tablets for the pond have been ordered, and the committee is looking at ways to get some surface movement/circulation in the pond. Stoffel reported that the bridge on the Nagonaba trail is spongy and in need of woodchips.

Discussion Items:

Homewood Cabins Water project update:

DPW Superintendent Chris Holton reported that he met with Eric Sequin from Prein and Newhof and that the soil borings are completed. Holton explained that the reason for the boring test were to check the soils too prepare for possibly directional drilling for the new watermain project.

Survey of Rose Street:

President Wetherbee reported that it is uncertain where the Allens property and Rose Street are exactly located and recommended getting the property surveyed.

Jim Allen has a 1913 record of the exact description of land. Street Administrator Chris Holton feels that the survey marks are pretty clear and suggested getting all surrounding property owners together to discuss.

Cindy Allen stated that they have been harassed by Trustee Stoffel regarding this issue. Mrs. Allen said that she paid extra for two surveys, title work and meetings with the Zoning Administrator and is now considering selling the property.

The Council agreed that a meeting between property owners would be a better approach.

Approve Survey and Wetland Delineation of Seventh Street:

Trustee Gale Moved to accept the Finance Committee’s recommended to approve the land survey from JFK Land Surveying Consultant, LLC-\$2,800 for Seventh Street.

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

Trustee Gale Moved to accept the Finance Committee’s recommended to approve the Gosling Czubak’s proposal to perform a wetland delineation and phase 1 environmental study-\$6,150 for Seventh Street. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.**

Waterways Grant Agreement for C Dock Improvements:

Trustee Gale Moved, Supported by Trustee Tom Gremel to adopt the Resolution from Waterways. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Resolution Declared Adopted. Motion Carried.**

Levi Property Appraisal:

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Gale to make the sale price for the Levy property \$180,750 which includes the cost for the appraisal. **Discussion:** Trustee Harper was not in favor of selling the property. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (5) Nays (2) Trustee Harper and Stoffel **Motion Carried.**

Action Items:

Face Mask Resolution:

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Myers to adopt the Resolution supporting that masks are worn in all Village of Northport establishments. **Discussion:** Trustee Gale said that many local business owners will appreciate the support. Trustee Stoffel felt that the suggestion was unnecessary. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.**

Planning Commission Appointment to fill Vacancy:

Applicants Laura Cavendish, Kathy Wessel, Tom Webber and Cheryl Holwerda have applied for the vacancy on the Planning Commission.

President Wetherbee recommended Kathy Wessel to fill the vacancy stating that she had the least personnel reasons for serving.

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve Kathy Wessel to the Village Planning Commission for a three-year term. **Discussion:** Trustee Gale commented that Wessel had a wonderful presence and she would be delighted to serve with her.

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

Reappointment of Christine Verdon on Planning Commission:

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Gale to approve Christine Verdon to the Village Planning Commission for a three-year term. **Discussion:** Trustee Harper explained why he could no longer support Verdon on the Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (3) Nays (4) President Wetherbee and Trustees Harper, Myers and Stoffel. **Motion Failed.**

Payment of Bills:

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Myers to approve payment of the bills for the month of June when funds become available in the amount of \$98,424.65

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

Public Comments:

Pam Steffens- supported allowing transient boaters in the bathrooms.

Fred Steffens- questioned why the village was maintaining the recycling center.

Laura Cavendish- thanked the Council for the support for wearing masks, and asked if she should reapply for the vacancy on the Planning Commission.

Tom Weber- suggested that during a zoom meeting council member should identify themselves. Weber also commented on the DNR website and the amenities for the Harbor, and made suggestions for the advertisement for the Planning Commission vacancy.

Council Comments:

Trustee Harper- made comments on the process for filling the vacancy on the Planning Commission.

Trustee Stoffel- made comments regarding the way the Steffens have been treated.

Trustee Gale- made suggestions for procedures during electronic meetings.

Adjournment:

Trustee Harper Moved, Supported by Trustee Cook to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 12:16 pm

Several Citizens attended via phone.

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

