

President Wetherbee called the meeting to order via zoom 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, Harbor Master- Susan Holtz, DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton, Community Liaison- Cindy Edmondson

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported** by Trustee Cook to approve the October 8, 2020 regular Council meeting minutes with corrections.

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

### **Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):**

Trustee Harper asked to have the complaint for Adelaide's added to the agenda as a discussion item.

### **Correspondence:**

**Laura Cavendish-** letter regarding the Short-Term Rental Ordinance and inconsistencies with village zoning.

**Ross Hammersley-** Correspondence with Zoning Administrator regarding Adelaide's and home occupations.

### **Public Comment:**

**Laura Cavendish-** reported that the curb cut for the Around the Corner project is scheduled to be completed in the next two weeks, weather permitting.

**Susan Ager-** commented about the high water in the marina on the break wall.

### **Reports:**

- A. **Liaison-** Community Liaison Cindy Edmondson reported on the letter from Ross Hammersley that was sent to Karl Wizinsky and Chris Anders from Mitten Brewery explaining the Village's ownership and liability for village streets. Edmondson also reported that the tree will be lit for the holiday season and the Nut Crackers will be placed in front of businesses.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott provided a financial report for the month of October. Scott also noted that she added a Council Packet link to the village website, Phase II ESA on 7<sup>th</sup> Street will be completed the week of November 9, Marina walk through with potential contractors is scheduled for Friday November 6 at 10 am.  
Scott thanked Merilee Scripps for the 16 years of service as Treasurer.
- C. **Treasurer** – Treasurer Merilee Scripps provided a financial report for the month of October in agreement with the Clerk.
- D. **DPW-** Superintendent Chris Holton gave a verbal report to the Council. Highlights of the report included;
  1. Homewood Cottage's watermain project is almost complete.
  2. Asset management and GIS updates completed
  3. Visitors Center Awning repairs due to the wind

D. **Employee Relations** – None

E. **Finance**- Finance Chair Jane Gale reported that the committee was reviewing budget amendments and the Marina C dock project and grant. Minutes from the October 14<sup>th</sup> and November 2, 2020 were provided.

F. **Infrastructure**- Infrastructure Chair Hugh Cook provided minutes from the October 21, 2020 were provided.

G. **Waterfront**- October 27, 2020 meeting minutes were provided.

Waterfront Chair Tom Gremel reported that the committee will hold a special meeting to begin the search for a new Harbor Master. Advertisement for the position will go out immediately. Clerk Scott reported on the C Dock marina project; stating that the notice to bid has been advertised and that a recommendation will be made at the regular council meeting in December.

H. **Planning Commission**: The Planning Commission representative Jane Gale reported that an Ad-hoc Committee has been reviewing the zoning ordinances and have found many discrepancies with relation to other village ordinances. The Planning Commission now has three vacant seats, after John Heitler resigned.

Zoning Administrator Report:

Zoning Administrator Bill Fuller provided a written report of his activities for the month of October.

Minutes from the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Planning Commission were provided.

I. **Parks and Trails**: Parks and Trails Chair Mike Stoffel supported the appointment of newly elected Chris McCann to the committee.

**Discussion Items:**

Thank you, Cheryl, Mike and Merilee:

President Wetherbee thanked Trustee Mike Stoffel, Cheryl Myers and Treasurer Merilee Scripps for their service to the community.

Commercial Slip request (Will Harper):

Trustee Harper explained that he would like the same opportunity that Mr. Spears was offered and is formally requesting a commercial slip for his boat rental business. Harper is requesting slip 102 and says that his clients don't use the amenities typically offered with a seasonal slip and that he is willing to pay double the seasonal slip rates.

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve two (2) commercial slips for the 2021 season. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (6) Nays (0) Abstained (1) Trustee Harper **Motion Carried.**

Welcome Susan and Chris to the Council:

President Wetherbee welcomed Susan Ager and Chris McCann to the Council, and congratulated Trustee Gale on another successful election stating that she is the heart and soul of the Council.

Village employee performance reviews:

President Wetherbee explained that he would be emailing the Council a document to make comments about village employees. Wetherbee said that he plans to send the reviews to the new Council members Susan and Chris.

Letter from Village Attorney Ross Hammersley on Home Occupations:

Zoning Administrator Bill Fuller corresponded with the Village Attorney after a verbal complaint regarding Adelaide's farm stand on Shabwasung Street.

Trustee Harper felt that the letter from the village's attorney regarding "home occupations" was a waste of his time. Harper stated that he tried to prevent the frivolous complaint from being

pursued saying that it was “selective enforcement” and that the village had many “Pop-up” businesses.

## **Action Items:**

### **Approve tuition for Planning Commission Classes:**

The Planning Commission would like to attend some educational training classes, which will cost \$200-\$300 per person.

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cook to approve the educational training classes for the Planning Commission members. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.**

### **Approve Finance Committee recommendation for Homewood financing:**

The Finance Committee recommended extending the financing terms for the Homewood Cottage’s main extension assessment from 7 to 14 years.

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cheryl to approve the extending the assessment term to 14 years for the Homewood Cottage Association watermain project.

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

### **Edward Property Division:**

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve the property division as provided for parcel #042-100-061-00. Discussion: There was discussion about Homewood Drive as to whether it was a private or public road. Edwards clarified that it was private.

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

## **Payment of Bills:**

Trustee Stoffel **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve payment of the bills for the month of October when funds become available in the amount of \$35,206.88

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

## **Public Comments:**

**Sherry Edwards-**Thanked the staff for getting the watermain project underway at the Homewood Cottage Association.

**Laura Cavendish-** Thanked the clerk for adding the link to the meeting packet on the website and also reminded the Council that she was very interested in serving on the Planning Commission. Cavendish also mentioned that Leelanau Township had language in their zoning for StreetSide stands.

## **Council Comments:**

Will Harper- congratulated the council on the vindication and approval of the marijuana ballot initiative. Harper also supported Cavendish being appointed to the Planning Commission.

Mike Stoffel- Thanked the Parks and Trails Committee and congratulated the new Trustees.

## **Adjournment:**

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

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

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 8:47 pm

Several Citizens attended via phone.

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