

President Wetherbee called the meeting to order via zoom at 7:00 P.M.

### **Roll Call:**

Council Members Present: President Wetherbee and Trustees: Ager, Cook, Gale, Gremel, McCann, Harper

Absent Members: None

Staff Present: Clerk- Joni Scott, DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton, Community Liaison- Cindy Edmondson, Zoning Administrator- Bill Fuller, Treasurer- Kallie Craker

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

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Gremel to approve the December 3, 2020 Regular Council meeting minutes with the amendment adding Kallie Craker, Treasurer in attendance.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (6) Nays (0) Motion Carried.

\*Note: Trustee Harper was experiencing technical difficulties during the vote.

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

Trustee Harper asked for a discussion regarding the Parklet at the Trailhead on 8<sup>th</sup> Street to be added.

### **Correspondence:**

None

### **Public Comment:**

**Michelle Stearling-** would like to see the 7<sup>th</sup> Street DPW preserved and reinstated as a community ice skating rink.

**Amanda Kruk-** Supports the appointment of Laura Cavendish to the village Planning Commission.

**Laura Cavendish-** asked for the meeting agendas to be posted and available to the public sooner. Cavendish also expressed her interest in serving on the Planning Commission.

**Pam Steffens-** Supports the appointment of Tom Weber to the village Planning Commission. Steffens supported the idea of an ice-skating rink at 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM), David Capser PE:**

David Capser from Fleis and VandenBrink Engineering firm, reported that the DWAM grant application is being reviewed by the State. Capser also reported on the SAW grant which is completed and closed out, and the Water Reliability Study which is being reviewed by Jamie Wade at the State.

### **Reports:**

- A. **Liaison-** Community Liaison Cindy Edmondson reported that she is waiting on the new grant applications for the marina to come out. Edmondson has also been working with the village attorney on the sale of the Levy property. Edmondson explained that a new legal description and deed for the Levy property was being recorded.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott provided a financial report for the month of December. A draft budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year was also provided. Scott noted that she would be attending the Waterfront and Infrastructure Committee meetings to review the budget.

- C. **Treasurer** – Treasurer Kallie Craker provided a financial report in agreement with the Clerk for the month of December. Craker also reported on an audit of the 2020 tax collection that she is performing and has recovered over \$2,100.
- D. **DPW**- Superintendent Chris Holton provided a written report to the Council. Highlights of the report included;
1. Oscar Larson has begun their work on C Dock project
  2. Received pricing on a new plow truck
- D. **Employee Relations** – Minutes from the December 14, and 30<sup>th</sup> meetings were provided. President Wetherbee mentioned that the Committee is working on a 360 evaluation for the staff.  
The Employee Relations Committee made the following salary recommendations;  
DPW Superintendent Chris Holton -\$75,000 effective January 1, 2021.  
Treasurer Kallie Craker- \$16,000 salary effective retroactive to a starting date of November 23, 2020 with a 90-day probationary period. The Committee plans to re-evaluate the salary at the end of the 90 days.  
**\*Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve the salary of \$75,000 for DPW Superintendent Chris Holton.  
**Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0). **Motion Carried.**  
**\*Trustee Gale Moved, Supported by** Trustee Harper to approve the salary of \$16,000 for Treasurer Kallie Craker with a re-evaluation at the end of 90 days probationary period.  
**Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0). **Motion Carried.**
- E. **Finance**- Finance Chair Jane Gale reported that the committee is reviewing the draft 2021-22 budget, updating the fee schedule and reviewing quotes for a new Loader and Plow Truck.
- F. **Infrastructure**- Infrastructure Chair Hugh Cook reported that the committee met on December 15 and reviewed a PSA from Prein and Newhof Engineering firm for design work on Mill Pond dam in the amount of \$30,900. The Committee also reported that they are still working with Doug Deyoung from Consumers Energy on determining which streetlights to turn off.
- G. **Waterfront**- Waterfront Chair Tom Gremel recommended the hiring of Bill Rosemurgy as Harbor Master.  
Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Gremel to offer the employment of Harbormaster to Bill Rosemurgy with an annual salary of \$50,000.  
Discussion: None  
Roll Call Vote: Yeas (7) Nays (0) Motion Carried.
- H. **Planning Commission:** Representative Jane Gale reported that the Planning Commission is considering creating a Shoreline Erosion Advisory Committee to establish requirements for an environmental buffer zone for new properties along the Bay Shore District.  
**Zoning Administrator Report:**  
Zoning Administrator Bill Fuller provided a written report of his activities for the month of December. Trustee Harper had many questions regarding the 2 new builds on Fifth Street and North Shore. Harper asked Mr. Fullers to be more specific with the details in his report.  
Minutes from the December 21<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Planning Commission were provided.
- I. **Parks and Trails:** Parks and Trails Committee Chair Chris McCann reviewed the minutes from their December 21, 2020 meeting.  
A discussion of ways to manage the nuisance of the geese population ensued. McCann mentioned the use of utilizing a trained dog much like Piper of TC airport. McCann offered to spend his time with his dog on the waterfront managing the geese.

McCann reported that Northport Creek golf course had a great year with record participation. A profit and loss report will be submitted to the Clerk soon.

## **Discussion Items:**

### **Status of Park Drive:**

Trustee Harper thanked Trustee Ager for facilitating a cordial agreement with Karl Wizinsky to transfer the deed to him. Harper told the Council that the property is owned by the village and that he has no plan to continue further.

### **Parklet at Trailhead:**

The Council had a brief discussion about the plans for the Parklet at the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Trailhead. Discussion included determining the final placement, uses for the parklet and landscaping.

## **Action Items:**

### **D&W Mechanical proposal:**

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the proposal in the amount of \$26,450 for the C Dock Emergency Repairs project.

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee McCann to accept the proposal from D& W mechanical in the amount of \$26,450.

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

### **Nealis Electrical Engineering Agreement:**

Bo Reinhardt from Nealis Engineering provided a quote of \$9,500 for the design of B and D dock electrical.

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to accept the proposal from Nealis Engineering in the amount of \$9,500. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.**

## **Planning Commission Nominations:**

The Village Council received letters of interest from; Richard Isphording, Octavia Buss and Nicole Arbury. Tom Weber, Daniel Caudill and Laura Cavendish all gave verbal interest in serving on the Planning Commission.

President Wetherbee nominated Daniel Caudill at the Township At-Large representative on the Planning Commission.

Trustee Ager **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Harper to approve Daniel Caudill on the Planning Commission. **Discussion:** None

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

President Wetherbee nominated Laura Cavendish.

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cook to approve Laura Cavendish's appointment on the Planning Commission. **Discussion:** None

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

President Wetherbee nominated Nicole Arbury.

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gremel to approve Nicole Arbury's appointment on the Planning Commission. **Discussion:** None

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

### **Payment of Bills:**

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve payment of the bills for the month of December when funds become available in the amount of \$113,229.87

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

### **Public Comments:**

**Laura Cavendish-** suggested that the Planning Commission look over Leland's ordinance on shoreline erosion and setbacks.

**Nicole Arbury-** Thanked the Council for appointing her to the Planning Commission.

**Tom Weber-** suggested the need for more detail in the meeting minutes of the Council and thanked the Council for his consideration on the Planning Commission.

**Anne Harper-** encouraged the Planning Commission to act quickly on the Shoreline Erosion and setback requirements.

**Pam Steffens-** expressed disappointment that the Council did not appoint Tom Weber to the Planning Commission, and suggested that some of the new members need more training on zoning regulations.

### **Council Comments:**

Hugh Cook- is disappointed that the Council has not acted on a Citizen of the Year. President Wetherbee agreed to add the discussion to the next regular meeting agenda.

Joni Scott- gave an update on the Thomas Botz Memorial sign stating that it had finally been ordered!

### **Adjournment:**

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

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

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm

Several Citizens attended via phone.

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