

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

Roll Call:

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

Absent Members: Trustee Ager zoomed in to the meeting.

Staff Present: Clerk- Joni Scott, Community Liaison- Cindy Edmondson, DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton, Harbor Master- Bill Rosemurgy

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cook to approve the March 6, 2021 meeting minutes with corrections. **Discussion:** Trustee Harper noted that he did not submit his Park Street quit claim deed to the Township Assessor. **Motion Carried.**

Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):

Trustee Cook asked for the discussion of Citizen of the Year be added to the agenda as a discussion item.

Trustee Harper questioned why the addendum to the JFK Contract was on the agenda as an action item. Harper cited that the Rules of Procedure call for any action item to be a discussion item before becoming an action item.

Correspondence:

Donna Chapman- Memorial Tree request

Leelanau UnCaged request for Village Support:

Anne Marie Mitchell announced that the Leelanau UnCaged event is scheduled for September 24, 2022. The Council agreed by consensus to support the event.

Public Comment:

Anne Marie Mitchell- Commented that the Northport/Omena Chamber of Commerce was looking for volunteers for the adopt a highway cleanup on April 23, 2022 at 9 am.

ZBA Meeting for Abbey Variance Request:

The Village Council convened into the Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing meeting at 7:09 pm, for a variance request from Kevin and Georgia Abbey. (see separate minutes)

Reports:

- A. **Liaison-** Community Liaison Cindy Edmondson reported on the following;
 1. The biennial Village Clean-up Day is scheduled for June 18, 2022.
 2. The NLTUA is having an open house and tours of the Treatment Plant facility on May 18, 2022 from 10 am-2pm.Edmondson noted the memorial tree request from Donna Chapman should go to the Parks and Trails Committee for further discussion.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott provided a financial report for the months of February-March in agreement with the Treasurer. Clerk Scott reported that the C Dock Waterways grant was closed out and that the Village had received its final payment in the amount of \$137,070.82.

- C. **Treasurer** – Treasurer Kallie Craker provided a revenue report in agreement with the Clerk for the month of February and March.
- D. **DPW**- DPW Superintendent Chris Holton provided a written report of the DPW activities for the month of March. Holton highlighted that the marina launch ramp would be closed during the dredging project.
 - 1. **Employee Relations** – Chairman Steve Wetherbee reported that the Committee was working on a performance review form and plan to hold quarterly meetings with staff to review performances.
 - 2. **Finance**- Finance Chair Jane Gale provided minutes from March 9, 2022 meeting. Gale reported that the Finance Committee was in the process of reviewing village ordinances and plan to have a vendor ordinance for the village to consider at the next regular meeting.
 - 3. **Infrastructure**- Infrastructure Chair Hugh Cook provided minutes from the March 16, 2022. Cook noted that the Committee was gathering information on the take-over of M-201 in Northport and recommended hiring an engineer to perform an evaluation on the box culvert.
 - 4. **Waterfront**- Waterfront Chair Tom Gremel provided minutes from the March 15, 2022 committee meeting. Harbor Master, Bill Rosemurgy reported that the marina was booked for the 4th of July. Rosemurgy also noted that the swans and special lights on the public beaches were working to keep the geese away.
 - 5. **Planning Commission:** minutes from the March 16, 2022 Planning Commission meeting were provided. Gale noted that the Planning Commission Chair had hired a new Recording Secretary- Sarah Murphy and that Nicole Arbury was elected Chair of the Planning Commission and Laura Cavendish was elected Secretary.
 - 6. **Zoning Administrator:** Scott provided a report of her activities for the month of March.
 - 7. **Parks and Trails:** Chair Chris McCann provided minutes from the March 21, 2022 meeting. McCann noted that the Committee had been working on sign language for the road ends. The committee plans to have this language available at the next regular meeting.

Discussion Items:

Trail Clean-up Day(s) and Better World Day:

President Wetherbee explained that the Northport middle-schoolers and some elementary classes will be participating in a “Better World Day”. The students would like to help clean up any areas in the village that the Council and staff see needed.

Trustee McCann offered to help facilitate the project with the students, starting with clean-up on the village trail system from 9-12noon. DPW Superintendent Chris Holton suggested cleaning up around the Mill Pond.

Action Items:

Arbor Day Proclamation:

The Village Tree Committee provided a proclamation to celebrate Arbor Day. Committee member Nicole Arbury noted that the adoption of the proclamation and observation of Arbor Day was a step towards becoming a Tree City USA.

Trustee Gremel **Moved, Supported by** Trustee McCann to adopt the Proclamation to observe Arbor Day. **Motion Carried.**

Approval of Planning Commission Appointments:

Nicole Arbury Appointment:

President Wetherbee nominated Nicole Arbury for a (1) one year term.

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Gremel to approve the appointment of Nicole Arbury for a (1) one year term. **Motion Carried.**

Bob Newell Appointment:

President Wetherbee nominated Bob Newell for a (3) three-year term.

Trustee Harper Moved, Supported by Trustee Gale to approve the appointment of Bob Newell for a (3) three-year term. **Motion Carried.**

John Woomer Appointment:

President Wetherbee nominated John Woomer to serve the remaining term of Kathryn Frerichs (2) two years.

Trustee Cook Moved, Supported by Trustee Harper to approve the appointment of John Woomer for a (2) two-year term. **Motion Carried.**

Approve \$8,056 expense for Floodplain monuments and Plat Map work:

John Korr, from JFK Land Surveying Consultant, LLC provided a detailed addendum to his contract for amending the plat between Nagonaba, Third, Warren and Mill Street and the dedication of West Park Drive. The primary reason for the increase was due to the detailing requirements and scale of mapping needed for the Northport Creek floodplain. An additional 12 monuments are required for the mapping and platting of Northport Creek.

Trustee Harper questioned the validity of the request. Trustee Cook asked for LARA documentation be provided by JFK Consultants before a decision is made by the Council.

Citizen of the Year:

Trustee Cook nominated Steve Wetherbee as the Citizen of the year. Cook noted his 22 years of service on the Village Council. Trustee Harper nominated Hugh Cook as the Citizen of the year, but wanted more time to consider.

President Wetherbee thanked Cook for the nomination, noting that he was planning to retire from the Council. The Council agreed to make a decision at the next regular Council meeting.

Payment of Bills:

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Harper to approve payment of the bills for the month of February when funds become available in the amount of \$650,706.43

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

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee McCann to approve payment of the bills for the month of March when funds become available in the amount of \$102,121.97

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

Public Comments:

Nicole Arbury- Thanked the Council for renominating her, Bob Newell and the new instatement of John Woomer as a Planning Commission member. Arbury clarified that the Tree Committee was working to identify policy for “public trees only”.

Council Comments:

Trustee Gale commented that she had spoken to Fred Steffens and agreed that having a summary of salaries would be beneficial when preparing the budget and raises.

Adjournment:

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

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

The meeting was moved to adjourn at 8:38 pm
Several Citizens attended via zoom.

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