

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

**Roll Call:**

Council Members Present: President McCann Trustees: Cook, Gale, Harper, Peterson, Cavendish and via Zoom Ager was in attendance

Absent Members: None

Staff Present: DPW Superintendent- Chris Holton, Clerk/Zoning Administrator-Scott, Community Liaison/Treasurer/Deputy Clerk-Edmondson and Harbor Master- Bill Rosemurgy

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve the January 5, 2023 meeting minutes as amended. **Motion Carried. Trustee Harper abstained from the vote.**

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

None

**Correspondence:**

John Mitchell- requested to be on the regular Council meeting agenda.

(2) Emails from Doug Whitley- asking the Village and Township to collaborate on a grant writer and wondered if the mandated software costs could be shared.

**Public Comment:**

John Mitchell- requested that only one power pole be relocated behind the weather tower to make the Veteran's memorial project more affordable.

Campbell McLeod- asked the Council to be more transparent and fiscally responsible, and welcomed the new members to the Board.

Cheryl Myers- recommended moving the Veteran's memorial project forward for completion.

**2023-24 Budget and Millage Hearing:**

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cavendish to start the Hearing for the Budget and Millage. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.** The hearing began at 7:21

Campbell McLeod- questioned the marijuana tax revenues.

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cavendish to start the Hearing for the Budget and Millage. **Roll Call Vote:** Yeas (7) Nays (0) **Motion Carried.** The hearing closed at 7:24

**Draft Budget Review:**

Clerk Scott reviewed the draft budget and answered question from the Council. The Council agreed by Consensus to strike the transfer of \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Debt Retirement Fund (Sewer), and increase the quarterly debt service charge on the NLTUA quarterly billing from \$73 to \$81 to make up the shortfall.

The Board agreed that they needed more time to discuss the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and would schedule a meeting at the end of February to formally adopt the budget.

- **The Council agreed, given that the Budget review was lengthy they would finish the Committee/Staff reports, pay the bills and Schedule a Special meeting to adopt the budget and complete the remaining items on the agenda.**

## **Reports:**

- A. **Liaison-** Liaison Edmondson provided a quote for consideration from Signplicity in the amount of \$4,415.95 for a new Village Office sign which was scheduled to be replaced and has not been completed. Edmondson also announced that the Leelanau Farmers Market would start on Friday June 9<sup>th</sup> and run through September 15, 2023.
- B. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott and newly-appointed Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Edmondson prepared written financial reports outlining village expenses and revenues for the month of January. The report included overtime hours by fund as requested.
- C. **Treasurer/Deputy Clerk** – Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Edmondson reported that she has completed her training with BS&A.
- D. **DPW-** DPW Superintendent Holton prepared a written report.
- E. **Employee Relations** – Committee made changes to the Harbormaster contract with input from Bill Rosemurgy. The committee worked on establishing a schedule for employee reviews. Trustee Ager will be responsible for distributing peer and self-evaluation forms prior to the scheduled meetings with employees. The committee will also try to meet with office staff to discuss the Community Liaison position.
- F. **Finance-** Finance Chair Jane Gale reported that the committee had been primarily working on the 2023-24 budget and Fee Schedule. Minutes from the January 12, and February 2, 2023 meetings were provided.
- G. **Infrastructure-** Committee Chair Laura Cavendish provided minutes from the January 25, 2023 meeting. Cavendish requested a Dropbox be added to the Village website for meeting packet documents to be added.
- H. **Waterfront-** Waterfront Chair Hugh Cook provided minutes from their January 17, 2023 meeting. Cook noted that he did not have a quorum. However, the committee did meet with Lisa Drummond and Janet Crane
- I. **Planning Commission:** Planning Commission meeting minutes from the January 18, 2023 were provided. Trustee Gale noted that the PC would like to recommend a Short-Term Rental Taskforce Committee to the Village Council. The Council agreed to discuss further at their next Special Meeting in February.
  - **Zoning Administrator**  
Scott provided a report of her activities for the month of January.
- J. **Parks and Trails:** Parks and Trails meeting minutes from January 16, 2023 were provided. The DPW noted that there is a tree down at the Dam and that they will remove it when the ice melts. Trustee Harper also mentioned a large spruce tree that had fallen on the Nagonaba Trail that he plans to remove. President McCann noticed a large tree that had fallen on the trail near the Wind Turbine.

## **Payment of Bills:**

Trustee Gale Moved, **Supported by** Trustee Cook to approve payment of the bills for the month of January when funds become available in the amount of \$34,718.09

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

## **Public Comments:**

None

**Council Comments:**

**Trustee Harper-** asked for the Special meeting to be scheduled next week and suggested that the Council hear from David Bieganowski not Ross Hammersley regarding the Plat Amendment.

**Adjournment:**

Trustee Harper Moved, Supported by Trustee Gale to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm.  
Motion Carried.

Several Citizens attended via zoom.

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

