

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

Roll Call:

Council Members Present: President McCann Trustees: Ager, Cook, Gale, Harper, Peterson, Cavendish

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 Ager Moved, **Supported by** Trustee Cook to approve the May 4, 2023 meeting minutes with a few minor corrections. Discussion: Trustee Gale noted the corrections; on page three of the minutes, during the discussion of the plat amendment and oversight, trustee Agers comments contained extra words. Gale also corrected the spelling of Tim Cipher's name.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Gale to approve the May 24, 2023 Special meeting minutes as presented. **Motion Carried.**

Approval of Agenda (amendments/additions):

The Council agreed by consensus to the agenda.

Correspondence:

Public Comment:

Kevin Murphy- expressed his intention to discuss the social district issue, which is on the agenda. He requested clarification on whether to provide input during the public comment period or during the discussion on the topic.

It was mentioned that a vote on the issue was already planned for the current meeting, even though the application was not yet finished.

Tom Weber, unable to attend in person, raised concerns about a personal attack he and his family received via email from trustee Harper after the previous meeting. He expressed his intention to request an investigation into trustee Harper's behavior and expected possible retaliation. He highlighted the need for a code of conduct for council members and mentioned his intention to request censure for trustee Harper.

Leelanau Uncaged Request 2023:

Tricia Van Dusen, acting as a spokesperson for the Leelanau Uncaged festival, requested permission to hold the festival again this year on September 30, 2023.

- The request was described as a formality since the festival has been held for nine years and coordination has improved over time.
- Tricia Van Dusen mentioned that the festival plans to follow the same footprint as in previous years.
- Some additional details about planning and coordination efforts were provided, including working with insurance companies, coordinating with emergency services, and reserving spaces for performers and organizers.
- There was discussion regarding the possibility of expanding the festival to Fourth Street and incorporating the NAA building. However, it was clarified that these plans were still in the works and required further discussion and coordination.

The village council expressed appreciation for the support provided by the Leelanau Uncaged festival and acknowledged the helpfulness of village staff members in the transition to their own 501(c)(3) organization.

Trustee Gale **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Ager to authorize the use of village streets for the Leelanau Uncaged festival. **Motion Carried.**

Bolt 4 Race Request 2023:

Sawyer Scott, Assistant Race Director, provided an overview of the success of last year's Bolt race, which raised \$1,300 for the Northport Area Heritage Association.

- The overall champion of last year's race was a 13-year-old named Quinn Sanderson, who achieved an impressive time, beating the previous record held by Matt Poppy.
- Sawyer Scott expressed gratitude to the council and village staff for their support over the past several years.
- Request: Sawyer Scott requested permission to hold the fourth annual Sawyer Scott Bolt race on September 2 at 12:00 PM, which falls on Labor Day weekend.
- Purpose: The race proceeds will contribute to a special project called "New Missions," a documentary about the founding of Omena and Northport and the story of the 1988 State Championship at Northport.
- MDOT Approval: MDOT has granted their approval for the race route, as it only requires a brief closure of a section of the road.
- Township Approval: Sawyer Scott mentioned the need to seek approval from the township, and they plan to do so.
- Route: The race route will remain the same as last year.

Trustee Ager **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Cavendish to support the fourth annual Bolt race. **Motion Carried.**

Staff Reports:

A. **Clerk** – Clerk Scott provided a financial report for the month of May in agreement with the Treasurer/Deputy Clerk. Scott also reported on the following items with the Council;

- Reimbursement Request: Clerk Scott submitted the first reimbursement request to the state waterways division for the Marina project, totaling around \$235,000. The request is currently pending.
- Lions Club Vendor Permit: The Lions Club would like to sell hot dogs during Music in the Park, similar to last year. They inquired about a vendor permit and requested the council's consideration to waive the permit fee since they are a nonprofit organization raising donations. The vendor permit fee is \$155 per year or \$50 for a one-time event. A vote is needed to determine whether to waive the fee for the Lions Club.

Discussion:

Lions Club Permit Fee: The council discussed waiving the vendor permit fee for the Lions Club since they are fundraising for the community. It was clarified that the Lions Club's involvement is specifically for Music in the Park. The usual fee for the permit is \$155 per year or \$50 for a one-time event. The consensus among council members was to waive the fee for the Lions Club while still requiring them to fill out the permit application. No objections were raised, and it was agreed to proceed with waiving the fee.

- Water Quality Report: Clerk Scott received the Water Quality Report from the DPW/water operator, and it will be posted on the village website.
- Leelanau Township Community Foundation: Clerk Scott mentioned that the Leelanau Township Community Foundation is conducting a survey on housing needs in the area. The foundation provided a QR code for the survey, and Clerk Scott will include the link on the village website.

B. **Treasurer/Deputy Clerk/ Liaison** – Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Edmondson provided a report on the revenues and mentioned that they have started working on downloading the

tax base and entering assessments. Additionally, they informed the council that the fireworks donation letter was sent out on Monday, and two donations have already been received. Donation forms are available in the foyer for anyone interested. The treasurer invited the council to ask any questions regarding the report.

C. **DPW-** DPW Superintendent Holton provided a written report of the DPW activities and the following updates:

- They mentioned that tactical asphalt work is scheduled for tomorrow at the marina, with the goal of opening a launch ramp on Sunday, weather permitting.
- They discussed the Northport sign and the agreement with divers for its installation. The property owner has agreed to give up the necessary property, and they have also agreed to allow the sign to tie into their irrigation system.
- They mentioned a punch list meeting with engineers and contractors at the marina to address any remaining items.
- The superintendent highlighted the completion of the retention wall at Marina Park and praised the work done by the contractor.
- They mentioned that lighting installation by Foothill Electrical might be completed by July.
- The superintendent discussed the trees along the corridor and Mill Street. They received a report of concerns and have taken action to address them. Some trees will be trimmed back or removed, and they will coordinate with a contractor to handle the tree maintenance.

Discussion:

- There was a discussion about the lighting along the sidewalks and whether they are intended to be low-level like the path.
- There was also a discussion about tree maintenance along the corridor and Mill Street.
- The DPW superintendent mentioned that they had explored an offering made by Sherry Edward for the entrance to Northport. Edwards, the property owner, has agreed to provide the necessary property for the sign. Additionally, Edwards has also agreed to allow the sign to tie into her irrigation system, which would be beneficial if the sign is installed there.

D. **Harbormaster Report** – Harbormaster Rosemurgy provided a written report of the daily activities at the marina. In Addition to the report the Harbormaster reported that he had been approached by a nonprofit organization called Seaside Sustainability, which operates mainly on the East and West coasts. The nonprofit offered to provide a unit that would skim debris, both organic and non-organic, from the top of the water in the marina. The unit would be installed on a dock and would be operated free of charge, with the only cost being the electrical operation. The nonprofit aims to expand its freshwater work and saw Northport as a potential opportunity. The Harbormaster presented the proposal to the committee, and there seemed to be no downside to it. The nonprofit is highly rated and funded by private donors. The unit would not move around like a Roomba vacuum cleaner but would be fixed to a dock. The estimated annual electrical cost is around \$500. The insurance requirement for the unit could potentially be waived if needed. The Waterfront Committee recommended accepting the offer, and a resolution was proposed to move forward with the agreement.

In addition to the Collect Thor agreement, the Harbormaster mentioned that there are voids underneath the sidewalks at the marina, both on the north pier and along the break wall. This issue requires attention, and potential solutions are being explored. The cost of addressing these voids, along with other future expenses related to the marina, was highlighted.

E. **Zoning Administrator-** Zoning Administrator Scott reported that she had received an application for rezoning, and she had responded to the applicant and informed them about the \$500 fee required to start the process. However, they had not received any

further communication or payment from the applicant. The Zoning Administrator mentioned that they would be working on getting the application and fee processed soon.

F. Interim Village Manager-

1. Zoning Administrator Search:

The search for a Zoning Administrator has involved reaching out to four individuals, two companies, and one government agency for their services. Unfortunately, all of them declined the offer except for one company that was met with. There is optimism regarding this company as they expressed interest and promised to provide a proposal by the end of the previous week. However, the proposal has not been received yet, but the company apologized for the delay and mentioned ongoing issues. Despite not revealing the company's name to avoid premature disclosure, the Village Manager remains positive about the potential outcome. Once the proposal is received, it will be forwarded for further evaluation, with the aim of making a decision next month.

2. Village Manager Search:

The Village Manager position has been advertised on multiple websites and social media platforms, including Monster.com and local community websites. A promotional packet is available for interested candidates. The application deadline is June 29. Initial interest has been received, with more expected in the last few days before the deadline. Once the applications are received, a packet will be distributed for each Council member. The council will be using an A, B, and C rating scale to evaluate the applicants. Interviews for phase one and phase two will be scheduled in July, despite it being a busy time for everyone. Janik is optimistic about attracting high-quality candidates due to the current state of the economy.

3. S.W.O.T. Analysis:

Chet Janik presented a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis to the council members. The strengths identified include a sense of pride in the community, a beautiful waterfront marina, a close-knit and caring community, and a location that attracts tourists. The weaknesses include the lack of an ethics policy, a lack of transparent information sharing among council members and staff, a dysfunctional village council, and inadequate communication between staff and the village and township. The opportunities mentioned include intentional growth planning, zoning amendments for controlled growth, the need for a strong village manager or administrator, changing the budget schedule, and developing affordable and workforce housing options. The threats identified are the misuse of social media, lack of trust among council members, lack of checks and balances in government, inadequate communication and sharing of information, challenges with the sewer system, and the lack of long-term planning. Janik concluded with recommendations such as revising the budget process, using official village email addresses for communication, transitioning to digital documents instead of paper, using signed and official stationery for correspondence, ensuring timely and equal distribution of information, and considering the development of a standards of practice document or ethics policy.

4. JFK Land Surveying Update:

John Korr, representing JFK Land Surveying Consultants, LLC, is requesting a payment of \$1,200 for the certification and recording of the survey work he performed on behalf of the village. He claims that only a surveyor can certify the work according to surveyors' ethics, policies, and standards. If someone else were to certify it, the original surveyor would need to redo the work and provide their official stamp. Out of the \$1,200 fee, approximately \$100 is estimated to be for John Korr's services, while the remaining \$1,100 is for CAD work. If the council wants the CAD work done, it must be performed by a surveyor.

Trustee Ager reached out to the Michigan Association of Surveyors multiple times to seek clarification but received no response. Interim Village Manager Chet Janik admitted not being an expert in this matter and sought the council's decision on whether to proceed or seek alternative opinions.

Trustee Ager offered to continue contacting the Michigan Association of Surveyors for further input. The council agreed to postpone the decision until the next meeting.

5. Mill Pond Dam Update:

In this Mill Pond Dam report, Interim Village Manager Chet Janik provided an update on the dam's status. The village hired consultant engineer Dan DeVaun from GEI Consultants to address dam violations. Chet Janik contacted Robert Schmidt, who is reviewing options for further action regarding the violations. Schmidt was initially displeased with boards being put back in the dam after the first violation, but pleased that the council authorized the consultant's hiring. Chet Janik will update Schmidt when they receive information from Dan. A preliminary report has been received, which will be discussed with DPW Superintendent Chris Holton. Dan DeVaun plans to visit the dam site on June 9, 2023, at 9 am to prepare a more detailed report. DPW Superintendent Holton also mentioned a citizen complaint about untreated algae in the mill pond. He confirms that no treatment has been done this year and mentions unsuccessful attempts with microwave pellets in the past.

6. **Committee Reports:**

A. Employee Relations:

The Employee Relations Committee Report provided a job description for an office assistant position. Trustee Cavendish raised a question regarding support for the Planning Commission, which was not mentioned in the job description. It was suggested that the support for the Planning Commission, such as recording secretarial duties, should be included either as part of the office assistant's responsibilities or assigned to another staff member, possibly the zoning administrator. The need for support in handling packets and publishing materials for the Planning Commission was also mentioned. It was noted that the job description could be modified to include the Planning Commission's support if desired. The Interim Village Manager suggested that job searches can be adjusted to find candidates who are available in the evenings and can also cover the Planning Commission's minutes if necessary.

B. Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee Report included the meeting minutes from their May 10, 2023 meeting. The chair, Gale, explained that there is a recommendation to change the fiscal year, which will affect the timeline for budget preparations. However, they aim to ensure that committees have sufficient time to complete their asset review. This will enable the planning commission and the Finance Committee to set a timeline for releasing the budget on schedule. Additionally, the committee is currently working on updating policies.

C. Infrastructure:

The Infrastructure Committee Chair, Cavendish, apologized for not providing a timely report during the Council meeting. Cavendish mentioned that the previous committee meeting focused on a Q&A session with Eric Seguin, an engineer from Prein and Newhof, regarding the Fourth Street drainage. Many residents from the area attended and had the opportunity to ask questions directly to the engineer. Several inquiries were raised, including whether Robin Schmitt with EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) would consider the stream or if it is only considered as runoff. This decision was crucial for the

project's plan. Cavendish mentioned that the engineer had not yet discussed this specific matter with Schmitt. The committee found the Q&A session productive and helpful for both residents and themselves. They plan to receive the engineer's answers and may schedule additional time with Eric via Zoom, as he has offered his services free of charge.

The committee also discussed water rates and will hold a meeting with the Clerk and Water Operator to further this discussion. Initially, they considered presenting potential changes during the current meeting and implementing them in July with billing. However, they decided to postpone the implementation to the fall to provide advance notice to the public and prevent any surprises in their billing. Grant writing assistance was mentioned as an ongoing need, and the responsibility for furthering this conversation was suggested to lie with the Village Manager or consider outsourcing to companies specializing in grant writing. The committee also discussed the possibility of quarterly meetings with the library board, township board, and village council to enhance collaboration and information sharing. The idea of sharing grant writers among these entities was also brought up, with a suggestion to explore this further and have discussions about it.

D. Waterfront:

The Waterfront Committee Chair, Cook, provided meeting minutes from May 18, 2023, and opened the floor for questions. The committee rejected an offer to pay \$300 per time for cleaning up the park and bathrooms after the Music in the Park events. Harbor Master Bill Rosemurgy mentioned the possibility of reaching an arrangement with the Arts Association regarding this matter and had a brief conversation with the director of Music in the Park, Lisa Drummond. However, they still need to work out the details.

Committee member Harper expressed the opinion that any cleanup arrangement should be in partnership with the NCAC (Northport Community Arts Center), as they are the ones who sponsored Music in the Park. Harper disagreed with the idea of paying someone \$300 for the cleanup.

DPW Superintendent Holton raised a question about the presence of portable toilets (porta Johns) and how long they would remain in the area. He reported receiving complaints about the smell last year, especially since they were located near the farmers market and had been vandalized.

Harbor Master Rosemurgy explained that the porta Johns were placed there for the entire season to assist with the farmers market and Music in the Park nights. Their purpose is to relieve pressure on the public bathrooms. While it may not be an ideal solution, many communities employ this approach, including for wedding receptions. The cost of the porta Johns is covered by the marina budget. Currently, there are three porta Johns, and they will be picked up after Labor Day. Additionally, three more will be brought in for the Fourth of July week but will only remain for a week or two before being removed.

Trustee Peterson shared correspondence from the Northport Bay Beach association, although there is uncertainty about the existence of such an association. The association expressed a desire for no smoking and no dogs in the swim area of the beaches.

There was a mention of the Council considering implementing a no smoking policy for the public village, but it did not make it onto the agenda for the current month. However, it has been scheduled to be discussed in the next month's agenda in July. Sample ordinances regarding no smoking on property designated for a golf course were also mentioned, indicating a potential discussion phase. It was suggested that caution and a slow approach should be taken when addressing this matter.

E. Parks and Trails:

The Parks and Trails Committee report states that there was no meeting held the previous month, so there is no written report. However, Committee Chair McCann shared some updates. The Village received a grant of \$40,000 from the Leelanau Township Community Foundation for the purchase of new playground equipment for South Beach Park. Additionally, a 2% grant application was submitted to the Grand Traverse band for \$20,000, and there has been follow-up regarding the application.

Trustee Peterson raised a question about moving forward with grant applications, mentioning that the Council had discussed tabling it due to other unfunded projects that need attention. Trustee Cavendish echoed this concern, stating that if the project's funding affects other priorities, she would have an issue with it. However, Chair McCann explained that the discussion had been to proceed with grant applications, as funds could be reprioritized to address other projects if they become available, especially considering the \$40,000 grant from the foundation.

Trustee Cavendish also mentioned the deteriorating condition of the existing playground equipment, citing instances of boards splitting and sharp edges. The safety concerns were raised, and it was suggested that addressing the deteriorating equipment should be a priority due to the quick worsening of its condition.

7. Ex-Officio Board Reports:

A. Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission report states that the minutes from the last meeting were not available in the packet. However, the commission was unable to complete the evaluation of three options for the Seventh Street project, and this task has been deferred to the next meeting. The commission has made significant progress on zoning amendment work and is collaborating with a consultant to obtain the final draft. Once finalized, the draft will be submitted to the Council for a hearing and approval.

The upcoming main focus of the June meeting will be the election of officers, as there is a slight delay in the process. However, there is a slate of officers who are willing to serve on the Planning Commission.

B. NLTUA:

The NLTUA (North Leelanau Township Utility Authority) report states that the meeting minutes from May 16, 2023, were included in the meeting packet. Chair McCann informed that the relining of the Northshore sewer main project has been successfully completed. Additionally, it was discovered that there is a need to extend the sewer main along Woolsey Lake Rd in order to access properties within the Sewer Assessment District.

McCann also mentioned that the Leelanau Township Board will be convening next week to appoint their board seat member to the NLTUA Board.

8. New Business:

A. Village of Northport Welcome Sign Agreement:

The Village Council of Northport discussed the agreement for the Northport welcome sign. The current agreement with the owners expires on August 1, and there has been controversy over its location. The council had a conversation with Sherry Edwards, who offered her property for the sign. It was mentioned that the Edwards location is preferable and they are even offering free irrigation. However, concerns were raised

about moving the sign and the history of personal vendettas associated with the current property owners.

The council discussed the possibility of writing an agreement that specifies the placement of political signs on the leased area but acknowledged that previous attempts to do so were ignored. It was suggested to work with the Edwards and establish terms for the agreement, including the relocation of the sign and possible landscaping changes. The council agreed that if the sign is moved, they would express gratitude to the previous property owners for their years of allowing the sign on their property.

Interim Village Manager Janik volunteered to engage in discussions with both property owners regarding the lease terms, including the potential allowance of political signs.

B. Northport Trail System:

During the Northport Trail discussion, it was revealed that the certificate of survey for the trail property had been obtained. However, complications arose due to the sale of some previously organized materials and parcels, as well as the non-registration of agreements signed by property owners. Consequently, there is currently no easement right for the trail. The main concern raised was regarding legal liabilities in case of accidents on the trail, particularly among new property owners who may not want the trail on their land. Trustee Harper mentioned that Michigan's recreational trails act protects property owners from liability when allowing recreational activities on their land. However, the issue of unsigned easements on specific properties posed a challenge. It was noted that new owners had emerged, and construction or clearing had begun on sections of the trail. Suggestions were made to remove signs from the trail to address liability concerns, but Trustee Harper argued that liability issues were less prevalent due to changes in Michigan laws. The need for legal consultation was emphasized, and some current property owners expressed support for keeping the trail. Interim Manager Janik agreed to discuss the situation with legal counsel to determine the next steps.

C. Mill Pond Algae:

DPW Superintendent Holton explained that the presence of algae in the pond is not solely due to algae growth. He noted that the hot and dry weather, along with a significant amount of pollen, has accumulated in the pond, causing a congealed appearance. Holton mentioned that such conditions are not uncommon during the spring, and this year has seen a substantial amount of pollen not only in the pond but also along the lakeshores. Overall, Holton did not find the situation to be unusual for this time of year.

9. Ongoing Business:

A. Northport Social District:

During the Social District update, President McCann informed the council about a meeting held with UnderSheriff Kiesel and Interim Manager Mr. Janek to discuss the social district and the responsibility of law enforcement in terms of liability. McCann reported that they have the support of the UnderSheriff and there don't seem to be any concerns. McCann mentioned that they are waiting for an updated map from Chamber Chair Daniel Caudill, showing the scaled-back social areas and identifying the businesses involved. Additionally, McCann raised the issue of the restroom situation, indicating that further discussion on that matter is needed.

During the public comment section on the Social District discussion, business owner Kevin Murphy expressed his opposition to the idea, stating that he had been

mistakenly associated with supporting it. He emphasized the need for a year-round public bathroom in the downtown area and mentioned his temporary solution of placing porta-potties near his business. Murphy raised concerns about sanitation, garbage, and potential public nuisances associated with the social district. He questioned the organization and inclusivity of the plan and urged the council to provide more information about the benefits, drawbacks, and responsibilities involved. President McCann clarified that the purpose was to allow businesses to increase revenue by selling beverages to go, and he mentioned the possibility of common areas where people could consume those beverages. Trustee Harper suggested scheduling a special meeting to involve more business owners in the discussion. President McCann assured that the plan was still in progress and encouraged further communication and input from the business community.

B. Short Term Rental Task Force:

Trustee Cavendish brings up the short-term rental task force, which had been discussed in previous months. She expresses concern about the progress of the task force and whether it is being followed up on. Trustee Ager had previously written a mission statement for the task force, but Cavendish is unsure if it has been reviewed.

Additionally, a citizen who owns a short-term rental property expresses interest in being part of the task force. The Council decides to include the discussion of the short-term rental task force proposal in the agenda for the next month's meeting.

Action Items:

A. 4 Way Stop at Marina Intersection- Rose, Bay and Nagonaba:

Trustee Harper **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Ager to convert the intersection at the entrance of the Marina, Bay, Rose and Nagonaba Street into a four-way Stop
Discussion: Trustee Harper raises concerns about the traffic at the Marina intersection of Rose, Bay, and Nagonaba Street. She mentions that the speed limit signs have not been effective in controlling the speed of vehicles, and there have been frequent close calls and confusion for pedestrians. Trustee Harper believes that it is only a matter of time before an accident occurs, particularly when boats are pulling out of the Marina and drivers on Bay Street do not stop. he suggests implementing a four-way stop to regulate the flow of traffic.

Trustee Ager questions whether the traffic in the Marina will become one-way to address the issue. DPW Superintendent Holton clarifies that the traffic will remain the same. He acknowledges that he has personally witnessed the traffic congestion and speeding in the area and agrees that stop signs could help alleviate the problem. He also expresses concerns about parking issues during the farmers market and the need for better crosswalks.

Trustee Harper mentions that many drivers assume it's a four-way stop and start moving, leading to honking from other drivers. She suggests implementing more stop signs or even considering a traffic circle. Trustee Cook believes that the main issue is speeding rather than the need for more stop signs.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas (6) Nays (1) Trustee Cook **Motion Approved.**

Payment of Bills:

Trustee Cook **Moved, Supported by** Trustee Ager to approve payment of the bills for the month of April when funds become available in the amount of \$533,457.04

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

Public Comments:

Yvonne Nordstrand- questioned the Social District and how it would be monitored.

John Weber- commended Chet for his work and hopes that the proposed measures will improve behavior and foster a more civil atmosphere in the community.

Secondly, John expresses concern about an incident involving vandalism and calls for a village representative to file a report with the sheriff to address the issue, as it has caused problems and expenses for the community.

Lastly, John addresses Trustee Harper, denying any involvement in harassment and demanding proof of the accusations made against his family. He expresses his frustration with the ongoing conflicts and urges for a civil interaction, even if personal differences exist. John concludes his comment by stating that he is fed up and would like the unfounded accusations to stop.

Tom Weber- shared a concerning incident he witnessed on Waukazoo Street involving a near-tragedy with a pedestrian and a pickup truck. He highlights the difficulties and potential dangers of the S-curve in town and expresses concerns about the compatibility of a proposed drinking district in that area.

Tom also calls for transparency and a police investigation regarding the placement of additional boards and a metal grate before the fishing derby. He requests written communication between the DPW and Eagle and suggests that Trustee Cavendish be present during any conversations with the engineer or DPW for trustee representation.

Regarding the dam, Tom suggests considering the costs and benefits of removing it, given the state's funds for dam removal projects. He emphasizes the importance of competitive bids for future decision-making and suggests reconsidering committee meeting times to accommodate more people's work schedules.

Tom denies any involvement in harassing Trustee Harper's girlfriend or business and calls for proof to be presented if accusations are made. He urges the village council to reflect on Trustee Harper's actions and the importance of using social media responsibly and avoiding personal agendas. Tom concludes his comment with gratitude for the information shared during the meeting.

Council Comments:

Trustee Harper- addresses an incident involving himself, Tom Weber, and Rachel. He mentions documenting the incident and writing a letter to the township trustees and Planning Commission, describing it as rude and erratic behavior. Trustee Harper acknowledges the lack of harmony between them and expresses confusion as to why, despite their political alignment. Trustee Harper mentions that during the last meeting, one of the individuals made a false insinuation about him being pulled over by the police for operating his low-speed vehicle illegally. He clarifies that this accusation was untrue and responds to Mr. Weber and his brother, criticizing their habit of making false accusations about trustees during meetings.

He offers to share his correspondence with the Village Council members regarding the incident last summer and the email he sent to Tom Weber and his brother regarding their behavior at the previous meeting.

Trustee Cook- simply expresses his hope that the proposed four-way stop includes provisions for accommodating golf carts and gem cars.

Adjournment:

Trustee Harper Moved, Supported by Trustee Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 pm.
Motion Carried.

Several Citizens attended via zoom.

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