Trustee's Report to the Village Planning Commission
October 2023

The regular meeting of the Village Council was held on October 5,2023.

Clerk Scott provided a written report with these highlights:

- Budget amendments to several funds will be necessary
- A new plow was purchased for the small dump truck
- Fundraising has started for the annual tree lighting and holiday festivities
- Work continues on adopting a new fiscal year

Treasurer Edmondson provided a written report of monthly revenue. Property taxes collected to date: $492,060.44 with an additional $22,219.85 in personal property taxes, a slight increase over last year's revenue. Delinquent taxes in the amount of $37,538.36 were turned over to the County for collection.

DPW Superintendent Holton provided a written report. Highlights include:

- Landscaping of the Welcome to Northport sign is complete. Two trees will be planted on the property to complete the project.
- Plans to repair damage to the Mill Pond dam and remediate the violation have been submitted to EGLE
- Curbside leaf and brush pickup will continue each Monday until snowfall
- UnCaged was relatively uneventful with the exception of the loss of a decorative street light on Nagonaba which was struck by a vendor's trailer. DPW will take part in a debriefing session with the UnCaged Board.

Harbormaster Rosemurgy provided a written report. Highlights include:

- The marina had more boat traffic for UnCaged than July 4, with 57 vessels arriving and leaving over a 3-day period
- Repair, painting and refinishing of benches, signs and posts is finished. Winterization will begin and wrap up by the October 15 closing.

The Zoning Administrator provided a written report which will be included in the Planning Commission packets.

Manager Dyer provided updates on several items, many of which will be covered under council actions. There have been no applicants for the office administrator position and the Council authorized the manager to negotiate terms with any candidate within the approved budget. He has met with the Leelanau Township Supervisor, Executive Director of the Leelanau Township Community Foundation and the MEDC Redevelopment Ready Communities Senior Community Planner. The Manager has also established a local phone number.

Employee Relations Committee discussed offering partial benefits to part time employees and agreed to recommend an increased wage range for the administrative assistant position.

Parks and Trails Committee did not meet..

Finance Committee finalized the Application Fee and Escrow Policy to present to the Council for action. The EV charging station has been getting much more use this year and the electricity costs have grown substantially. The Infrastructure Committee will be asked to look at options for collecting a charging fee.

Infrastructure report was added to the meeting dropbox by Chair Cavendish.

Waterfront Committee minutes were provided. South Beach swim buoys will be placed at a depth of 5 feet next season. Mobi-mats will be put in place next season to allow wheelchair access to the water.

Trustee Gale gave a verbal status report on the zoning ordinance and master plan updates. She also announced the plan to meet with the Township Planning Commission on October 25 at the Township Office.

NLTUA is proceeding with a rate study with an eye to having adequate reserves for maintenance and repair. Township representative Cross submitted his resignation and Supervisor McMillan was absent from the meeting. No new business was conducted. The annual meeting is scheduled for October 17 at 9:30 AM.

The following items were discussed by the Trustees:

- The resolution to support the state funding of a secondary road patrol officer for an additional five years was discussed again. Trustee Harper provided communications from the Sheriff and Prosecutor explaining they have no obligation to enforce village ordinances and he would like to withhold our resolution unless we receive written assurance that they will enforce local ordinances. Manager Dyer offered additional options. The Council agreed to table the resolution until Mr. Dyer has an opportunity to speak with county officials for additional details.
- A proposed Five-Year Water Rate Schedule, prepared by the Infrastructure Committee, was presented. Some additional information will be important to establish rates that will fit the actual needs of the water system. No action will be taken at this time.
- President McCann appointed two members to the Short Term Rental Task Force. Susan Ager will represent the Village Council and Mike Stoffel is the resident who does not operate an STR. By virtue of his role as Zoning Administrator, Jim Dyer will also serve. The Planning Commission chair will be asked to solicit a volunteer to represent the PC.

The Trustees took the following actions:

- Approved the Application Fee and Escrow Policy.
- Approved purchase of I-pads for the Trustees
- Approved an amendment to the agreement with Wade Trim for $4,250 to complete the zoning ordinance update.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Gale