

Newberry Village Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
Electronic Public Meeting – Due to COVID-19 Virus

****NOTE – All votes were done by Roll Call Vote**

Present: President Stokes, Trustees: Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. All Board members identified as calling in remotely via ZOOM from Newberry, MI.

Absent: Hardenbrook.

Also Present: Interim Village Manager/Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement – Watkins, Clerk – Schummer, Newberry News - Sterling McGinn. Public – identified by zoom as ‘Natalie’.

Call to Order: President Stokes called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. via Zoom.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda with the addition of Resolution 2020-10-20. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Resolution 2020-10-20: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to adopt Resolution 2020-10-20, establishing rules for remote attendance by village council members, planning commission members, village committee members and members of the public meetings. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Minutes: Moved by Hendrickson, support by Puckett, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2020 regular meeting as written. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None via ZOOM. One written comment received from Rebecca Handa regarding issues with snowmobile use in town.

Village President’s Announcements: None.

Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:

- A.) **Village of Newberry – Monthly Bills.** Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the September 12, 2020 – October 16, 2020 bills, in the amount of \$257,307.26. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.
- B.) **McGahey Construction Draw Request:** Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to preapprove the payment of Request #6, in the amount of \$49,410.00. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.
- C.) **Water & Light monthly bills:** Moved by Puckett, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to pay the Electric and Water Fund bills for September 5, 2020 – October 9, 2020, with a total amount of \$551,817.03. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.
- D.) **Christmas Lights Fund** – as of 9/30/2020 - \$14,278.00.
- E.) **Treasurer’s Report:**
 - a.) September 2020 – N. Moulton submitted a written report. Council accepted the report as presented.
- F.) **Request for Disbursement of Funds:**
 - a.) Stormwater/Asset Management/Wastewater (SAW) Grant Program, pay when paid: Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to pay Request #27 – 09/01/2020 to 09/30/2020
 - 1.) C2AE invoice #13-0210 for \$11,249.68
 - 2.) Great Lakes TV Seal INC. invoice #20439 for \$4,801.71

3.) Great Lakes TV Seal INC. Invoice #20441 for \$51,575.46
4.) Hiawatha Shores Landfill Invoice #CM2019-46 for \$10,356.30
5.) Peter Anderson & Sons Invoice #10-9-2020 for \$4,440.00
for a total of \$82,423.15. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Petitions and Communications: None.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions: Moved by Freese support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to adopt the amendment to Ordinance 18 and Attachment to Ordinance No. 18. This Ordinance is in regards to snowmobile use curfew time. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson. Nays: Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

2018 audit presentation by State of Michigan Auditor: State of Michigan Auditor appeared via Zoom. Auditor explained the 2018 audit and also answered questions put forth by the Council regarding the audit.

Unfinished Business:

- 1.) Approval of Village Manager Contract: Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve the Village Manager contract as presented. Discussion followed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.
- 2.) Expenditure of CRLGG funds for construction of Village of Newberry lobby space: A letter was presented explaining the use of funds received from the Coronavirus Relief Local Government Grants Program. The funds will be used to construct lobby space, to be used by the public, instead of having to stand outside to do business. The space will be located by the door on the north side of the building.
- 3.) Water Valve Replacement on E. Truman/Vulcan: Watkins gave a report regarding the replacement and the boil water notice.
- 4.) 2019 Audit update: Watkins gave an update on the Audit.
- 5.) Village of Newberry surplus equipment auction – update: Watkins provided a chart showing the equipment sold and amount received. The sale raised \$12,594.37
- 6.) New Maintenance building: Watkins gave an update. Primary construction is done. Waiting for SEMCO to come and put in a line for heat.
- 7.) Fairbanks Generator Phase 2 repair estimate: Information
- 8.) Public Comment Follow-Up from previous meeting: None needed.

New Business:

- 1.) Amendment to Ordinance 18: Done earlier in the meeting.
- 2.) W&L Board Appointments:
 - a.) Appointment of Customer, non-electoral seat: The Board was presented with questionnaires, received from Matt Perry and Kirby Wendt, showing interest in the vacant 'at large' seat on the Water and Light Board. The Village President is the one who nominates for this seat. Stokes nominated Wendt with support by Freese, Nomination failed. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese. Nays: Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.
 - b.) Appointment of two Council seats: Stokes appointed Freese and Hendrickson as representatives from the Council to the Water and Light Board.
- 3.) EGLE Notice: A letter from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) dated Sept. 30, 2020, was presented. Letter was regarding the unauthorized disposal of solid waste at the Harrie street dumpsite. Discussion followed.
- 4.) Budget Adjustments for Review – Water Fund and Electric Fund: Reviewed and discussed.

Reports of Boards:

- 1.) Water & Light Board: October 13, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to questions regarding legality of continuing with remote meetings.
- 2.) Planning Commission Meeting: The September 28th meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Committee Reports:

- 1.) Ordinance Committee: October 1, 2020, meeting minutes provided. Stokes gave a verbal report.
- 2.) Management Committee: September 17, 2020 and October 7, 2020 meeting minutes provided. Moved by Freese, support by Puckett, **CARRIED**, to designate the Village President as the point of contact to sign the time off requests presented by the Village Manager. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Reports of Village Officers & Management:

- A.) Fire Chief: Wendt submitted a written report.
- B.) Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant & DPW: Blakely submitted a written report.
- C.) Water & Light: Written report submitted by Working Superintendent Kucinkas. Watkins gave a verbal report. Discussion followed.
- D.) Interim Village Manager/Director of Human Resources & Community Engagement: Watkins gave a verbal as well as written report. Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve Interim Manager Watkins leave requests. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

Public Comment: Comment heard from Schummer.

Comments by Council Members: Comments heard from Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson and Puckett.

Adjourn Meeting: Moved by Freese, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Ayes: Stokes, Cameron, Freese, Hendrickson, Puckett. Absent: Hardenbrook.

These minutes are unofficial until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

Lori A. Stokes, Village President