

Newberry Village Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 22, 2021 – Followed Public Budget Hearing at 7:11 p.m.  
Meeting Location: 307 E. McMillan

**Present:** President Freese, Trustees: Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes.

**Absent:** Puckett.

**Also Present:** Village Manager – Watkins, Clerk – Schummer, Sterling McGinn, Robert Liebermann.

**Call to Order:** President Freese called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Stokes, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda with three additions. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett,

**Minutes:** Moved by Hendrickson, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2021, Regular Session, as written. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:** None.

**Village President's Announcements:** President Freese extended condolences to the family of Jack Neff, who recently passed away. He served the Village for many years as the Newberry Police Chief.

**Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:**

- A.) **Village of Newberry Monthly Bills:** Moved by Hendrickson, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the November 12 – December 16, 2021 bills, in the amount of \$26,878.73. Discussion followed. Motion amended to include the exception of paying \$109.00 for the purchase of a plaque for the Fire Department. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- B.) **Water & Light monthly bills:** Moved by Cameron, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to pay the Electric and Water Fund bills for November 6 – December 10, 2021, a total amount of \$114,887.10. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- C.) **Request for Early Disbursement of Funds:** Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, approve payment of the remaining \$38,000.00 for 2021 employee arbitration settlement, pending availability of funds. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- D.) **Christmas Lights Fund** – as of 11/30/21 - \$20,600.83.
- E.) **Treasurer's Report:** November 2021 report – N. Moulton submitted a written report. Council accepted the report as presented.

**Petitions and Communications:** None.

**Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions:**

- 1.) Resolution 2021-12-22-BUDGET Resolution: Moved by Freese, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, adopt 2021-12-22-BUDGET Resolution to approve the 2022 Operating Budget. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

**Unfinished Business:**

- 1.) **Pole Study Update:** Watkins gave an update.
- 2.) **Solid Waste Pickup – External Contractor:** Watkins gave an update. There have been two responses from contractors to date.
- 3.) **Water & Light Board:** One customer - non-elector and one regular seat are still vacant on the Board.
- 4.) **Council Seat Open:** Open seat on Council due to the resignation of Dan Hardenbrook.
- 5.) **Reducing Trustees Public Hearing:** Moved by Hendrickson, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to place, on the February agenda, a Public Hearing and a vote regarding the reduction of Trustees. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- 6.) **Public Comment Follow-Up from previous meeting:** None.

**New Business:**

- 1.) 2021 Budget Adjustments: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve the 2021 Budget Adjustments as presented. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- 2.) 2022 Proposed Operation Budget: Voted on previously in the meeting.
- 3.) Michigan SRF Sewer Loan Intent to Apply: Moved by Freese, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve the Village Managers request to submit the Intent to Apply Form for the State Revolving Fund Sewer Loan. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- 4.) Purchase of Utility Pole Trailer: Moved by Freese, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve the purchase of a utility pole trailer up to the amount of \$20,000.00. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- 5.) Energy Optimization: Report by Watkins.
- 6.) Planning Commission Appointment: Motion by Freese, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to appoint Hendrickson to the Planning Commission. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Schummer, Stokes. Abstain: Hendrickson. Absent: Puckett.
- 7.) Council Committee Appointments: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve Council committee appointment. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

**Reports of Boards:**

- 1.) Water & Light Board: Stokes gave a verbal report for the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- 2.) Planning Commission Meeting: Next meeting January 21, 2022.

**Committee Reports:**

- 1.) Fire Committee: December 2, 2021 meeting minutes provided.
- 2.) Finance Committee: December 6, 2021 meeting minutes provided.
- 3.) Garbage Committee: December 8, 2021 meeting minutes provided. Next meeting 01/10/22 at 9:30.
- 4.) Infrastructure Committee: Next meeting is 01/12/2022
- 5.) Management Committee: Next meeting is 01/13/2022
- 6.) Ordinance Committee: Next meeting 01/06/2022

**Reports of Village Officers & Management:**

- A.) Fire Chief: Written report submitted by Secretary Immel.
- B.) Ordinance Enforcement Report: Written report submitted too late to include in meeting packet. Verbal report by Watkins.
- C.) Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant & DPW: Written report submitted by Superintendent Blakely.
- D.) Working Superintendent of Water & Light: Written report submitted by Working Superintendent Kucinkas.
- E.) Village Manager: Watkins gave a verbal as well as written report.

**Public Comment:** Comments made by Robert Liebermann regarding recycling bins.

**Assignment of Public Comment Response:** Freese will answer the public comment questions at the next meeting.

**Comments by Council Members:** Comment heard from: Cameron, Stokes, Schummer, Hendrickson, Freese.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Moved by Stokes, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

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