

**VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING**  
**Regular Council Meeting – January 16, 2023**

The meeting was called to order, in the Village Council Chambers, by President Julie Epperson at 7:00 PM.

Present: Loraine Garcia, Brandy Gunsell, Aaron Kuhl, Dennis Kunding, Rob Snider, Marcus Sting, Julie Epperson

Absent: None

Others: Justin Fritz, Dena Kish, Charlene Hudson, Steven Repkie, Sami Khoury, Cheryl Fuerst, Wayne Volz, Steve Kretzschmer, Glenda Hallock, Megan Tietz

**III. Agenda – January 16, 2023**

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Snider to approve the agenda, as amended to add VII.C.1. Police Car, IX.C. Harbor Commission, and IX.D. Caboose for the January 16, 2023, Regular Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2022, Regular Council Meeting and January 3, 2023 DPW, Police, Administration, Light & Water and Budget Committee meetings as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**VI. Community Recognition – USA Caring and Sharing**

The USA Caring and Sharing representatives reported 70 food boxes and gifts to 125 children were delivered in 2022 by nine teams. The Sebewaing Lions, Rotary and USA Schools assisted the program with Angel Trees in three locations. Donations can be made at the Trinity United Method Church during the year.

**V. Public Comment**

Sami Khoury, chair of the Huron County Board of Commissioners, provided updates for the county.

**VII. Committee Reports**

**A. DPW Committee**

Trustee Kuhl updated the Council on DPW activity including sidewalks high spots milled down, the first storm went well with no major issues, the lift station was cleaned, playground equipment inspected and repaired, and lights installed in Muellerweiss Park. The new DPW storage building will not be built at this time. New doors will need to be installed on the Pine Street building. Discussed blight letters being sent to property owner and renter, if applicable. If nothing is done, a citation will be given to both the owner and renter.

## **B. Office Administration Committee**

Trustee Gunsell stated they plan to have the golf cart ordinance ready to present at the March Council Meeting. The Harbor Commission and Rental Property Ordinance will be reviewed. No Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) additional contribution will be made for the Police at this time due to budget constraints. The paid property taxes for 207 W Sharpsteen Street will be reimbursed by was be presented to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

## **C. Police Committee**

Per Trustee Gunsell, a resident addressed the committee about a resident pushing snow in front of her residence. The budget for gasoline is exhausted. The chief purchased two used radios.

The 2012 Chevy Tahoe top end of the engine broke. Options discussed included:

1. Replace the engine with a new engine. This would include a warranty.
2. Repair the engine. Once the engine is pulled, additional issues may be revealed. Two of the three bids provide a warranty.
3. Purchase a different vehicle. The vehicle would need to be outfitted with the police needed equipment. If another Tahoe was purchased, the current equipment could be used.
4. Not repairing the 3<sup>rd</sup> vehicle until fiscal year 2023-2024 and using the other two vehicles.

### **1. Police Car Repair**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the engine removal and installation of a new engine in the 2012 Chevy Tahoe Police vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$8,000. Garcia: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

## **D. Light and Water Committee**

Trustee Sting provided updates including Village of New Haven transferring to a new voltage class and sold L&W 24 transformers at scrap value. Assisted DPW Hanging the lights in Muellerweiss Park. Winter Storm Elliott caused small power outages. Department of Transportation inspections completed. Fleis & Vanderbrink submission for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD) Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households (SEARCH) Grant requires additional information.

### **1. Financial Statement – November 30, 2022**

Motion by Sting seconded by Snider to approve the Financial Statement for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending November 30, 2022 submitted by Superintendent Charlene Hudson.

Garcia: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

## **2. Operating Statistics Report – November 30, 2022**

Motion by Sting seconded by Gunsell to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending November 30, 2022 submitted by Superintendent Charlene Hudson.

MOTION CARRIED

## **F. Budget Committee**

Snider provided the update including the reports presented by L&W and Administration Office. The 2022 Electrical Bond will be included in the 2023-24 budget for L&W. Superintendent Hudson will update the Capital Improvement Plan for items completed and discuss future plans with employees that are retirement eligible.

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. 249 North Center Street. No updates

B. 244 North Center Street. No updates

**C. Speed Study.** The business owners on M-25 have voiced their opinion to not change speed limit and lanes on M-25. The Speed Study will not be requested from the Michigan State Police and Michigan Department of Transportation. President Epperson requested the Sebewaing Police be visible along M-25 South of Sebewaing Road.

D. Food Truck. No updates

**E. DPW Storage Building.** Superintendent Bumhoffer has discussed the issue with the DPW Committee chair and a new DPW Storage Building will not be pursued at this time.

## **IX. New Business**

### **A. Grounds Use Application**

#### **1. Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce.**

The beet feet route (Saturday morning) is not included in the plans. The council would like to have the route prior to the Sugar Festival.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kuhl to approve the Grounds Use Application for the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce 2023 events.

MOTION CARRIED

**B. Scrap Tire Grant.** The Village of Sebewaing received the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Scrap Tire Clean Up Grant for \$3,000.

**C. Harbor Commission.** There is one vacancy for the Harbor Commission. Updated bylaws and resolution are being drafted.

**D. Caboose.** Trustee Snider questioned the donations that were made for moving the caboose. Per President Epperson, Talaski Building Movers has not cashed the check so no money exchanged hands.

## **X. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **B. Monthly Bills**

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kuhl to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$136,477.45.

Gunsell: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: yea; Sting: yea; Garcia: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

### **XI. Public Comment.**

The public voiced concerns and requested clarification about the speed study and repairs to the police vehicle.

**XII. Correspondence.** None

**XIII. Council Comment.** None

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kunding to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:34 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson  
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish  
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing