

VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING

Regular Council Meeting – January 20, 2025

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

Present: Scott Adam, Dennis Kunding, Aaron Kuhl, Marcus Sting, Julie Epperson

Absent: Rob Snider

Others: Rod and Noreen Tietz, Doug and Chris Deming, Wayne Volz, Carolyn Repkie, Steve Repkie, Charlene Hudson, Linda Engelhardt, Justin Fritz, Dena Kish

IV. Agenda – January 20, 2025

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the agenda for this meeting, as amended to include X. Committee Reports D. Light & Water Department 4. Adoption of PA 235 Renewable Energy Plan. MOTION CARRIED

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Kunding seconded by Sting to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024 Regular Council and January 6, 2025 DPW, Police and Light & Water Committee minutes, as presented. MOTION CARRIED

X. Committee and Commission Reports

A. Department of Public Works (DPW). Trustee Kunding provided updates. Leaf pick-up is completed. Playscape build is completed, play area remains closed until the poured in place (PIP) mat is installed in the spring. Planted six trees throughout the South Park and two in the North Park.

Demolition of 42 and 50 N. Center Street buildings are underway. Grant Funds received by the Huron County Land Bank are being used for the removal. Fencing for the front and back portion of the property, as it will slop down towards the river, is being provided by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Huron County Drain Commission has an easement. The Army Corp of Engineers owns the river.

1. Grounds Use Application(s)

1a. USA Pride Softball Tournament

Motion by Kunding seconded by Kuhl to approve the use of the North Diamond (S. Third Street), Small Diamond (Henry Street), and South Diamond (Henry Street) from Monday, June 23, 2025 to Sunday, June 29, 2025 for the USA Pride Softball Tournament.

MOTION CARRIED

1b. USA Summer Recreation Softball League

Motion by Kunding seconded by Adam to approve USA Summer Recreation Softball League for the use of the North Diamond (S. Third Street), Small Diamond (Henry Street), and South Diamond (Henry Street) from Saturday, April 26, 2025 to Friday, July 25, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED

C. Police Department. Trustee Sting reported the 2020 Chevy Tahoe police vehicle has been purchased and delivered. An update was provided on a handful of blighted properties.

1. Part-time Police Officer Hiring

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the hiring of Benjamin Davis as a training Part-time Police Officer, at a training wage of \$20.00 per hour effective January 20, 2025 with a training period of 90 days and subject to fit for duty physical and background check.

Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

D. Light and Water Department. Trustee Sting reported on the monthly activity. Phone transfer completed with minor issues resolved by Thumb Electric Company. Department of Transportation (DOT) Inspections completed on vehicles. Removed or cut 15 trees. The 624 stack testing completed and passed. Flushed dead ends for water quality improvement. Water main break on December 24, 2024 was repaired. Succession planning for Plant Supervisor in process. BS&A Cloud conversion is moving forward.

1. Financial Statement – November 30, 2024

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the Financial Statement for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending November 30, 2024 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Operating Statistics – November 30, 2024

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending November 30, 2024 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Parking Lot – 110 West Main Street

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve the bid from Kemp Tiling Company, Inc. for building a parking lot on the parcel at 110 West Main Street for employees and for easier access of heavy equipment behind the L & W office, not to exceed \$12,000.00.

Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Adoption of PA 235 Renewable Energy Plan

Superintendent Hudson explained this is a state mandate which requires filing every two years. Michigan Municipal Electric Association (MMEA) will file for the group and allow purchases or sale of excess renewable energy credit from the group at a cost savings.

Resolved by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the Resolution #04–2024-2025 to adopt the Michigan Public Act 235 Renewable Energy Plan.

Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Council Vacancy

Chase Suber has resigned as a council trustee prior to being sworn into the office. Discussion was held on having the applicant(s) attend the February 17, 2025 council meeting.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the advertisement for the open Council position on the Village of Sebewaing website, Facebook page, and door postings, with a closing of 4:00 PM on Friday, February 7, 2025. MOTION CARRIED

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Employee Policy and Procedure Handbook

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunding to approve the Employee Policy and Procedure Handbook as presented, effective January 20, 2025.

Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

B. Trustee Policy and Procedure Handbook

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the Trustee Policy and Procedure Handbook as presented, effective January 20, 2025.

Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

C. Non-union Employee Raises

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the Non-union employee pay raise of 3%, as presented, effective April 1, 2025.

Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

XIII. COMMISSION REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS

A. Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – January 14, 2025. No report.

B. Harbor Commission – December 17, 2024 and January 14, 2025. Trustee Sting reported the ice fishing is picking up, donated 20 overnight dock spaces to the Veteran's fishing event, no increase for 2025 rates, and the Average Joe Fishing Tournament and Cops and Bobbers will be on separate days during the free fishing weekend.

1. Reappointment of Harbor Commission Board Members

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the reappointment of Robert Snider and Troy Strieter to the Harbor Commission Board with the 3-year terms expiring January 31, 2028, effective January 21, 2025.

Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Sebewaing Marina Property and Liability Insurance

Resolved by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the Resolution #03–2024-2025 to remove the Harbor Commission property and liability insurance from the Village of Sebewaing policy.

Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Epperson: yea.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED

D. Monthly Bills

Motion by Kundingler seconded by Kuhl to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$361,856.42.

Kuhl: yea; Kundingler: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

XVII. Adjournment

Motion by Kundingler seconded by Adam to adjourn the regular council meeting at 7:46 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing