

## **VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING**

### **Regular Council Meeting – March 17, 2025**

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

Present: Scott Adam, Brian Kaczorowski, Aaron Kuhl, Dennis Kunding, Leslie Shenberger, Marcus Sting, Julie Epperson

Others: Rod and Noreen Tietz, JoVal Deering, Wayne Volz, Jim Shaw, Matt Bumhoffer, Charlene Hudson, Linda Engelhardt, Justin Fritz, Dena Kish

#### **IV. Agenda – March 17, 2025**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the agenda for this meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

#### **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Council and Committees**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunding to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2025 Ordinance Committee and Regular Council; March 3, 2025 DPW, Office Administration, Police and Light & Water Committees; and March 5, 2025 Light & Water Workshop minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**VIII. Public Comment.** A resident requested a pet waste station be installed at the annex property park across from the marina. The property is leased to the Harbor Commission and the matter will be discussed at their next meeting.

#### **X. Committee and Commission Reports**

**A. Department of Public Works (DPW).** Trustee Kuhl provided updates. Streets plowed 6 times (roughly 12–16" of snow), salted 9 times, snow piles moved from more snow 4 times, and sidewalks plowed three times. River ice thickness measured 11–12" on 2/20/25. Used Vactor truck and Jetter to clear flushed blue shop towels clogging the sewer lead from Michigan Sugar Company. Purchased 2019 Chevrolet Colorado pickup for parks usage. Traded in the 2004 Chevrolet pickup for \$2,000. Replaced coolant hose on International pay loader.

Sebewaing River Level: The Drain Commission's cut in the wall from the partial collapse of 42 N. Center St. is going to stay. An engineer's report will be needed for this property to determine development options, subject to Drain Commission easement.

#### **1. Replacement of Computers**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunding to approve the purchase of 4 desktop and two laptop computers for the DPW and Office Administration at a cost not to exceed \$11,000.00 through Thumb Office Supply, Inc.

Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

## **2. Seasonal Work Hours**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to approve the authorization of the DPW Superintendent, at his discretion, to set a four-day 10 hour a day weekly schedule, from 6:00 AM to 4:30 PM, with ½ hour for lunch, from April 1<sup>st</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>, with half the employees working Monday through Thursday and the other half working Tuesday through Friday, and a 10-hour holiday only for the Fourth of July during this period.

Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea;

Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

## **3. Seasonal Employee**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the advertisement of a seasonal employee for the DPW Department.

Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea;

Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

## **4. Municipal Office Awning Roof Replacement**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the replacement of the Municipal Office awning roof with asphalt shingles by JP Custom Builds L.L.C. at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea;

Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

**B. Office Administration Department.** Trustee Kuhl stated the committee discussed Village vehicle usage for commuting and the Earned Sick Time Act/Minimum Wage Law.

## **7:15 PM Recess the Council Meeting**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to recess the Regular Council Meeting. MOTION CARRIED

## **2025-2026 Budget & 2025 Tax Millage Public Hearing**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to open the Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 Budget & 2025 Tax Millage at 7:16 PM. MOTION CARRIED

The President Epperson read the notice of public hearing and requested public comments. Clerk Kish discussed the Village of Sebawaing Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget for the various funds highlighting specific revenues and expenses. Superintendent Hudson explained the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget for the Light & Water Department explaining the non-operating revenues and expenses.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to close the Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 Budget & Tax Millage at 7:36 PM. MOTION CARRIED

## **Reconvene the Council Meeting**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to reconvene the Regular Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

### **1. 2024-2025 Budget Amendment**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to approve the budget amendment, as presented, for the DNR Spark Grant to remove revenues and expenses from the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year for accounting purposes due to the Playscape replacement not being completed.

Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

**C. Police Department.** Trustee Sting reported uniforms and equipment were received for Part-time Officer Davis. Working on the drawings for the remodeling of the Sebewaing Police Department building. Discussed using Village vehicles for commuting. Blight update was given on 733 N Beck and 844 E. Main St. properties.

**D. Light and Water Department.** Trustee Sting reported on the monthly activity. Tree trimming/removal completed for the season. DTE Energy doing pole upgrades at the South end of VoS. L&W will have to move the fiber to the new poles upon completion. The engine's 20k maintenance will be completed during the Michigan Sugar Company shutdown. Crews performed bucket rescue training. The BS&A Cloud Services: Transition to the Cloud system will start Thursday, March 20, 2025 with a "go-live" date of Monday, March 24, 2025.

### **1. Financial Statement – January 31, 2025**

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve the Financial Statement for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending January 31, 2025 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

### **2. Operating Statistics – January 31, 2025**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending January 31, 2025 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

MOTION CARRIED

### **3. Internet Rates 2025-2030**

Resolution by Sting seconded by Shenberger to approve Resolution #06-2024-2025 to adopt the internet rates for the effective period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2030, as presented.

Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED

### **4. Water Rates 2026-2030**

Resolution by Sting seconded by Kaczorowski to approve Resolution #07-2024-2025 to adopt the water rates for the effective period of September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2029, as presented.

Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Epperson: yea.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED

**F. Ordinance Committee.** Trustee Kuhl stated there were five non-zoning ordinances reviewed and sent to the attorney.

## **XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **1. Planning Commission Appointment**

Motion by Adam seconded by Shenberger to approve the appointment of Jason Eberlein to the

Planning Commission for the remainder of the term held by Rob Snider expiring July 20, 2026.  
Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea;  
Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

## **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. 2025 Tax Millage Rate**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the 2025 tax millage rate of 15.59790 Mills; which includes 11.73590 Mills for Village General Operating and 3.8620 Mills for Village Streets.  
Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea;  
Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

### **B. 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the adoption of the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget for the Village of Sebawaing and Sebawaing Light and Water as presented.  
Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea;  
Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

### **C. 2025 EGLE Scrap Tire Grant**

Justin Fritz, Administrative Assistant explained the current criteria of the grant and changes from previous years. A direct payment from the state will be required again this year. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean-up will be May 31, 2025.

Motion by Adam seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the Fortistar Biomass Group Environmental Rubber Recycling agreement and Direct Pay Authorization for the 2025 Michigan Environmental, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Scrap Tire Grant application.  
Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea;  
Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

## **XIII. COMMISSION REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Downtown Development Authority (DDA).** The master plan will be presented for public input.

**B. Harbor Commission.** Discussed multiple fishing tournaments in 2025. Hired a lawn service and maintenance work at an hourly rate. Looking for a cleaning service and summer help. Working on a new website. Update on annual dock rental and seasonal launch passes. Compiling a maintenance list, purchasing picnic tables, approved the SIERA (central reservation system) with the DNR. Discussed dredging and coming up on the dredging schedule.

**C. Planning Commission.** A special use permit application was received for 26 N Beck Street to allow the residence to be used as a short-term rental. The ordinance was designed for a bed and breakfast property with the owner on the premises. A public meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

### **D. Monthly Bills**

Motion by Kunding seconded by Kuhl to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$143,027.23.  
Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea;  
Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

**Public Comment.** A resident questioned the status of the new playscape construction. The water inside the concrete boarder will need to be drained and warmer temperatures before the safety surface can be poured.

**XVII. Adjournment**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunding to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:20 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson  
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish  
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing