

**VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING**  
**Regular Council Meeting – September 18, 2023**

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

Present: Loraine Garcia, Aaron Kuhl, Dennis Kundinger, Marcus Sting, Rod Tietz, Julie Epperson

Absent: Rob Snider

Others: Noreen Tietz, Charlene Hudson, Steven Repkie, Matt Bumhoffer, Linda Engelhardt, Justin Fritz, Dena Kish, Megan Tietz, Marcus & Ashley Deering, Carolyn Repkie, Theresa Kain

**IV. Agenda – September 18, 2023**

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Sting to approve the agenda for the September 18, 2023, Regular Council Meeting, as amended, to move IX.C.2. Audit prior to VIII. Community Recognition. MOTION CARRIED

**V. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2023 Regular Council, September 6, 2023 DPW, Police, and Administration Committee meetings as presented. MOTION CARRIED

**VII. Public Comment.** None

**Audit for Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2023, Smith & Klaczkiewicz, PC**

Tom Smith from Smith & Klaczkiewicz, PC. updated the council on the 2022-2023 fiscal year audit and financial statement.

Motion by Garcia seconded by Kundinger to accept the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Audit and Financial Statement as presented by Smith & Klaczkiewicz, PC.

Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

**IX. Committee Reports**

**A. Department of Public Works (DPW) Committee**

Trustee Kuhl's reported on the August 22 & 23, 2023 storm causing two sewer backups, storm and drop sewers cleaned, and lift station running at full capacity. The right field of the South Ball Diamond needs an additional line of tiling for drainage issues. Considered replacing some of the horseshoe pits with permanent cornhole sets.

**1. Brush Pile Locked**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Tietz to approve the locking of the Brush Pile on Liken Road with public access by appointment or checking out a key from the Village Office.

Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

**2. Grounds Use Applications**

**a. USA Pride 12U and 14U Summer Recreation Softball League**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the USA Pride 12U and 14U summer recreation softball league to be held May 14, 2024 to July 25, 2024 at the Main Park Ball Diamond.

MOTION CARRIED

**b. USA Pride Softball Tournament**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kundinger to approve the USA Pride girls' softball tournament to be held June 25, 2024 to June 28, 2024 at the Main and South Park Ball Diamonds.

MOTION CARRIED

**c. USA Homecoming Parade**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Garcia to approve the Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools Homecoming Parade to be held on October 6, 2023 at 4:00 PM beginning at North Center Street (Sebewaing Township Fire Department parking lot) to Main Street to Third Street to the Main Park.

MOTION CARRIED

**3. Full-time DPW Laborer Position**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the hiring of Marcus Deering as the full-time DPW laborer for the Village of Sebewaing at an hourly wage of \$4.00 below the DPW Laborer hourly rate of \$22.35 (\$18.35) and raises annually April 1<sup>st</sup> as stated in the United Steel Workers Local Union 15157-07 contract. He will receive the benefits described in the Village of Sebewaing Employee Handbook, with additions, and as recapped on the Full-time Union Benefits Document.

Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

**B. Police Committee**

Trustee Kuhl's updates included new breaks pending on the 2019 Dodge Durango, police department relocation options, four free backup weapons pending from the Law Enforcement Support Office, provided information concerning jurisdictional boundaries, and procedural manual was implemented in August.

**1. Part-time Police Officer Position**

Trustee Sting met with the applicant and felt he would be a good fit for the Village of Sebewaing.

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kundinger to approve the hiring of Francis (Fran) J. DeShano as a Part-time Police Officer at the part-time wages of \$24.00/hour effective September 19, 2023, subject to acceptable background check.

Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

**C. Office Administration Committee**

Trustee Garcia gave updates on the Municipal Building accessible exterior/interior doors and the AT&T underground terminals as related to blight and the Metro Act Permit renewal.

**1. 2024 Michigan Environmental, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Scrap Tire Grant**

The Village of Sebewaing/Sebewaing Township Annual Clean-up Day will be the first Saturday in June 2024. The grant requires payment directly to the processor, Fortistar Biomass Group Environmental. The signed documents are required with the grant application.

Motion by Garcia seconded by Kundinger to approve the Fortistar Biomass Group Environmental Rubber Recycling agreement and Direct Pay Authorization for the 2024 EGLE Scrap Tire Grant application.

Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

### **3. Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Spark Grant – Prime Professional Bid**

Motion by Garcia seconded by Kuhl to approve the Spicer Group bid for the DNR Spark Grant Prime Profession at a cost of \$65,900.00 and authorize the Village Clerk to sign the Agreement. Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

### **4. Workshop Versus Committee Meetings**

President Epperson discussed eliminating the four Committee Meetings and having one Workshop meeting. The trustees would not make any decisions during the workshop, just conversation and questions. Each department would have a chairperson.

Motion by Garcia seconded by Tietz to approve replacing the monthly DPW, Police, Administration, and Light & Water Committee Meetings with one Workshop Meeting for all council members in attendance and all Department Heads providing presentations. Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

### **D. Light and Water Committee. No meeting**

Superintendent Hudson thanked the L&W staff for covering for her while she was on medical leave. A couple of tanks for the engines will need to be repaired or the bladder replaced.

The L&W portion of the audit is showing some of the deficit is due to long-term debt. Working with Michigan Sugar Company on rate structure and additional equipment placed inside the plant.

### **1. Financial Statement – July 31, 2023**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kundinger to approve the Financial Statement for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending July 31, 2023 submitted by Superintendent Hudson. Kuhl: yea; Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

### **2. Operating Statistics – July 31, 2023**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending July 31, 2023 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.  
MOTION CARRIED

E. Budget Committee. No meeting

F. Ordinance Committee. No meeting

### **X. Unfinished Business**

**A. 249 North Center Street.** EGLE will be preparing the final report on the clean-up of the property. A deed restriction will be required for future sales of the property.

**B. 244 North Center Street.** Huron County has funds available to remove the building on the property. The VoS is waiting on the requirements of Huron County.

### **C. Social Media Policy**

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Kuhl to approve the employee social media Policy as presented. Kundinger: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: nay; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

**XI. New Business**

**A. Emterra Environmental USA Corp. Trash Contract Modification**

**1. Contract Increase**

Emterra Environment has notified the VoS an increase in the monthly rate due to the increase in labor and equipment costs. When the contract was signed, there were no other bids

Motion by Sting seconded by Tietz to approve the Emterra Environmental USA Corp. trash, yard waste, and recycling contract modification to increase the cost by \$1.79 per month per household starting October 1, 2023 for the remainder of the (5) year contract expiring March 4, 2027.

Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: nay; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

**2. Residential Per Home Monthly Trash Charge**

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the trash, yard waste, and recycling per home monthly charge of \$17.66 effective October 1, 2023 with the cost adjusted annually to match the trash contract's monthly per home charge increase.

Sting: yea; Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: nay; Snider: absent; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

**B. Trick or Treat**

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the Trick or Treat hours for the Village of Sebewaing from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Halloween, Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

MOTION CARRIED

**XII. Other Business**

- A. Planning Commission – No meeting
- B. Harbor Commission – No meeting

**D. Monthly Bills**

Motion by Kunding seconded by Sting to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$140,503.33.

Tietz: yea; Garcia: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: yea; Snider: absent; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.  
MOTION CARRIED

**XIV. Council Comment**

Trustee Kunding questioned property between Dix and Meissner Court Apartments that has not been mowed. DPW Superintendent contacted the property owners; however, the area is too wet to mow at this time.

The Treasurer has collected \$524,700.36 with \$67,434.79 (11.4%) delinquent for the 2023 Village Taxes.

**XIV. Council Comment**

Motion by Kunding seconded by Tietz to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:10 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson  
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish  
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing