

VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING
Regular Council Meeting – February 16, 2026

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

Present: Brian Kaczorowski, Aaron Kuhl, Dennis Kundinger, Leslie Shenberger, Marcus Sting, Theresa Nitz, Julie Epperson

Others: Jeff Parsons, Rod and Noreen Tietz, Deb Sy, Sue Eastman, Wayne Volz, Charlene Hudson, Matthew Bumhoffer, Linda Engelhardt, Justin Fritz

IV. Agenda – February 16, 2026

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the agenda for this meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED

V. Approval of Minutes - Council and Committees

Motion by Sting seconded by Kundinger to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2026 Regular Council and February 2, 2026 DPW, Office Administration, Police, February 5 2026, Budget and Light & Water Committee and February 10, 2026 Budget minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED

VI. Visitors, Guests, and Requests

Jeff Parsons, Executive Director of Bay Shore Camp, provided information concerning their program and camps. Bay Shore Camp was started in 1911. The enrollment of kids participating in camps has been lower since covid, summer of 2025 had 776 kids. Families are demanding more from camps especially safety for their children. There is a paradigm shift happening this year at Bay Shore, they are going to connect more with local churches and families. They will be moving from volunteer staff to a paid staff model; this provides additional safety for the camps. This summer's schedule was totally reorganized. The camps age levels were adjusted. This year's camp focus is on growth. They like to engage and get involved in community events. Their plan is to return to more open pool times. Any person can sponsor a child who cannot afford the price.

X. Committee Reports

A. Department of Public Works (DPW). Trustee Kuhl provided departmental monthly activity including excess brush was trimmed from trees along the streets to keep from hitting equipment during snow plowing. Historic downtown sign was taken down and revitalized. Potholes were filled. Blades were replaced on the Western snow plow and 2014 International truck; streets plowed six times and salted three times. Pump 3 was replaced due to a failed oil seal at the lift station. Oil, grease, and filter was done on the Payloader. Administrator watching for trash cans being left out at the curb all day.

1. Playground Equipment

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve the purchase of a Medium Sensory Dome playground equipment from GameTime for the Northside Neighborhood Park (Eighth and Elm St) not to exceed \$18,500.00.

- *DPW employees plan on constructing the playground equipment.*

Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

2. MDNR Grant Application

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the Spicer Group Letter Agreement to develop a concept plan and grant application for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Recreation Passport Grant to be completed by April 1, 2026 for an estimated cost of \$10,000.

- *Grant money if received will be used to replace the larger pavilion in Main Park.*
- *Concept Plan/Preliminary Estimate of Cost: Billed hourly; estimated fee of \$3,500.*
- *MDNR Grant Application: Billed hourly; estimated fee of \$6,500.*

Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

3. Park Signs

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to approve the purchase of 16 New Park Signs at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

- *Each sign would identify the parks name.*

Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

4. Catch Basin Installation

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Nitz to approve the installation of two storm sewer catch basins on East Sharpsteen Street by Kemp Tiling Company, Inc., not to exceed \$15,000.

Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

5. Overnight Camping at Village of Sebewaing South Park (127 S Third Street)

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to approve overnight camping at 127 S Third Street South Park during the Sebewaing Lions and Rotary Charity Softball Tournament with the proper paperwork submitted to the Village Office prior to the tournament held and all fees are paid.

Village of Sebewaing will have 2026 as a trial year.

- *Cost is \$60.00 per night.*
- *No campfires.*
- *Quiet Hours 11 pm-8 am.*
- *Additional rules may be added.*
- *Weather Permitting.*

Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

B. Office Administration Department. Trustee Kuhl provided updates including the Public Hearing for Budget and Tax Millage, fire extinguisher companies are being discussed and meeting date and time for the Council and DDA are posted on the website and Village office foyer. Full and Part-time non-union employee wage increases. The microphone and speakers were delivered and are set to be installed in the Council Chambers. Village alarm system contact list was discussed. The W-2's, 1099 and quarterly tax information was submitted. Work on the 2026-2027 budget continues. Michigan Municipal League property and liability paperwork was submitted.

1. Schedule Public Hearing for 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget & 2026 Tax Millage Rate

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to schedule the Public Hearing for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget and 2026 Tax Millage Rate on March 16, 2026 at 7:15 PM.

2. Budget Amendment

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the Budget Amendment for Police – Education & Training 101-301-960.000 in the amount of \$3,000.00.

- *The \$3,000.00 are funds received from the State of Michigan for Continuing Professional Education for Law Enforcement.*

Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

3. Non-union Employee Raises

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunding to approve the Non-union employee pay raise of 3% effective April 1, 2026, as presented.

- *The union employee raises will be 3.0% effective 4/1/2026 per the two union contracts.*

Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

C. Police Department. Trustee Sting's updates included purging of old files continues. Still looking for a couple laptops and video recording system pending renovation. Tires replaced on the 2019 Durango and 2020 Tahoe. The Durango needs a push-bumper. Continuing Professional Education hours. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards annual registration and audit came back good. Complaints of at large dogs. Monthly Activity for December – Total calls for service were 48, traffic stops: 36, vehicle miles: 1,688 for three vehicles. The Volunteer Police Aid program and job description was discussed. Trustees would like more information.

D. Light and Water Department. Trustee Sting reported for Fiber there are 4 new installs waiting. The PCA for January was \$0.01711. Circuit 2 flickering lights were resolved. Patrolled circuits 1 and 3 with thermal imaging camera. There was a small ½ hp transfer pump ordered for coolant fluid movement. Water main breaks on Sharpsteen, South Center and Main Streets repaired. Truck Department of Transportation inspections completed. Kappen removed three very large trees impeding electric lines on West Sebawaing Street near Airport and South Beck Street near John Street. Completed nine miss dig tickets. They are working with Holophane Lighting Solutions on bridge lighting design.

1. Financial Statement – December 31, 2025

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

Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

2. Operating Statistics – December 31, 2025

No Roll Call Needed

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

MOTION CARRIED

3. Theka Engineering Solutions

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve Theka Engineering Solutions to provide engineering and testing/commissioning services as required to support the new 72kv Siemens Circuit Breaker to replace the existing 40kv breaker on the DTE Primary incoming line for Sebewaing Light and Water and not to exceed \$20,000, as presented.

Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

4. MPPA Power Purchase Commitment Authorization for 2026 and 2027

Motion by Sting seconded by Shenberger to approve the Michigan Public Power Agency Power Purchase Commitment Authorization for Calendar years 2026 and 2027 to follow the hedge plan and increase price certainty for Sebewaing Light and Water and not to exceed \$4,217,484.00, as presented.

- *2025-2026 Fiscal Year \$279,544.00*
- *2026-2027 Fiscal Year \$2,394,675.20*
- *2027-2028 Fiscal Year through December 2027 \$1,543,264.80*

Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

5. Maintenance Testing of 5 MVA T&R Electric Spare Transformer

Motion by Sting seconded by Kaczorowski to approve to supply labor and equipment for the Maintenance Testing of 5 MVA T&R Electric Spare Transformer by Newkirk Electric Associates Inc. for Sebewaing Light and Water and not to exceed \$14,000, as presented.

Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

6. Utility Financial Solutions, LLC Proposal

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the proposal by Utility Financial Solutions, LLC to provide a comprehensive cost of service, financial projection, rate track and updated rates for Sebewaing Light and Water and not to exceed \$50,000, as presented.

Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kunding: yea, Shenberger: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

7. Network Switches

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the quote for Network Switches for Sebewaing Light and Water from Abadata and not to exceed \$10,000, as presented.

Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kundinger: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

E. Budget Committee. There have been two meetings to discuss the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget.

XI Unfinished Business.

A. 244 North Center Street (Dime Store) There is a new Huron County Treasurer so unsure when land bank meeting will be for the online auction to be set up and date given.

B. 249 North Center Street (LMS) This property is available for development.

XII. New Business

A. Village of Sebewaing Parks & Recreation and Master Plan

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Shenberger to approve the Spicer Group Letter of Agreement for Professional Services to update the Village of Sebewaing Parks and Recreation and Master Plan with a cost not to exceed \$30,000.

Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Kundinger: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

B. Annual Clean-up Day Will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2026.

C. Financial Signing

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kundinger to approve Linda Engelhardt to be a Financial Signer on all required loan documents for the purchase of the Vactor Truck for the Village of Sebewaing due to the absence of the Full-time clerk, effective February 16, 2026.

Kuhl: yea, Kundinger: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

XIII. COMMISSION REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS

A. DDA Meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 2:00PM in the Village Council Chambers.

B. Planning Commission. Meeting February 17, 2026.

C. Harbor Commission. Trustee Sting reported Harbor Commission wants to do upgrades to buildings. There has been activity at the marina because of good ice for fisherman.

D. Monthly Bills

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Kaczorowski to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$124,109.33.

Kundinger: yea, Shenberger: yea, Sting: yea, Nitz: yea, Kaczorowski: yea, Kuhl: yea, Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

XIV. Public Comments. None

XV. Council Comments. Trustee Kaczorowski will get with Matt for speaker and microphone system installation in the Council Chambers.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion by Kaczorowski seconded by Shenberger to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:43PM. MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson
President, Village of Sebewaing

Justin Fritz
Administrative Assistant, Village of Sebewaing