

VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING

Regular Council Meeting – June 16, 2025

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

Present: Scott Adam, Dennis Kunding, Leslie Shenberger, Marcus Sting, Julie Epperson
Absent: Brian Kaczorowski, Aaron Kuhl
Others: Rod and Noreen Tietz, Jim Shaw, Wayne Volz, Carolyn Repkie, Matt Bumhoffer, Charlene Hudson, Steve Repkie, Linda Engelhardt, Dena Kish

IV. Agenda – June 16, 2025

Amend the agenda to add under XII. New Business A. Fireman Event and B. Zoning Administrator.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the agenda for this meeting, as amended.
MOTION CARRIED

V. Approval of Minutes - Council and Committees

Motion by Sting seconded by Shenberger to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2025 Regular Council and June 2, 2025 DPW, Office Administration, Police and Light & Water Committee minutes as, as presented.
MOTION CARRIED

VIII. Public Comments. A resident questioned the demolition of 42 and 50 N. Center Street properties, specifically the remaining interior wall which is the shared wall with 36 N. Center Street. The wall is in poor condition and is now the responsibility of the owner of 36 N. Center Street. The demolition grant only financed the removal of the buildings. A Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Façade Grant was approved for 36 N. Center Street.

X. Committee and Commission Reports

A. Department of Public Works (DPW). Trustee Kunding read the DPW minutes in the absence of the DPW Committee members. Highlights include Huron County Work Crew scraped and painted curbs throughout town. Picked up logs at the marina discharged by Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) cleaning the log jam upstream at the M-25 bridge. Railing along the river at 50 N Center Street has been installed. The Playscape is finished. Army corps installed a silt curtain along the south river bank and filled super sand bags to place along the river when needed. An engineer study will be completed on 42 & 50 N. Center Street to see if the concrete wall is sufficient to withhold the forces of nature before tile is installed and black dirt and grass is seeded. Citations requested for blighted properties due to non-compliance from previous violation letters.

1. Vactor Truck Replacement

Motion by Kunding seconded by Shenberger to approve the purchase of a Vactor Truck from MacQueen Equipment at a cost of \$526,620, as presented.

Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.
MOTION CARRIED

2. Bridge Weight Limit Testing

Motion by Kunding seconded by Sting to approve testing of the N. Center Street and Anton Street bridges for weight limits by Spicer Group for a cost of \$2,200.00, as presented.

Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

B. Office Administration Department. Trustee Schenberger updated the council stating the cost summary for the Playscape was reviewed. Huntington Bank provided a 30-day quote for the Vactor truck financing. USDA Rural Development has no grants available; however, they will allow the VoS to use up to half of the Repair, Replacement and Improvement (RRI) reserve from the lagoon loan as a down payment. Notifications were completed for the Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing and discussed the procedures for the meeting.

1. Schultz and Young PC

Motion by Shenberger seconded by Adam to approve Julie Epperson, Village President, to sign the Schultz and Young PC engagement letter for labor attorney services.

Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

2. Village Owned Vehicle Take Home Policy

The use of clearly marked VoS vehicles for employees' daily commute is considered a non-taxable benefit. President Epperson had the labor attorney and Village attorney review the policy. Both made minor verbiage changes.

Motion by Shenberger seconded by Sting to approve the Village Owned Vehicle Take Home Policy, as presented.

Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

C. Police Department. Trustee Sting updates included a review on Part-time Officer Davis training. A review of the schedules for the Michigan Sugar Festival and the SRO Summer Schedule. Blight citations and tall grass letters were discussed.

1. Police Department Remodeling

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the remodeling of the Police Department Building at a cost of \$2,002.66, as presented.

Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

D. Light and Water Department. Trustee Sting reported a discussion was held with Police Chief Repkie concerning the proposed remodeling of the Police Department building, which is owned by L&W. Bayside Best Bean had a meter replaced and reprogramming for solar energy. Rebuilt the pole line from 33 E. Main Street to 117 E. Main Street and removed an excess transformer. Discussed the May 15, 2025 storm and prevention of a power outage by starting the J624 engine prior to the storm. Recommended an easement of 10 feet on either side of the poles for Sebawaing River Campground, which was discussed at the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting for the campground expansion. Pine Street Water Tower was washed out and repairs made.

1. Financial Statement – April 30, 2025

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve the Financial Statement for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending April 30, 2025 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

2. Operating Statistics – April 30, 2025

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending April 30, 2025 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Energy Waste Reduction Program

Motion by Sting seconded by Shenberger to approve the participation in the Energy Waste Reduction program through Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) for four years at a cost not to exceed \$120,000 per year, as presented.

Sting: yea; Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

F. Ordinance Committee.

1. Ordinance Updates

a. § 34.02 Purchases or Contracts \$5,000 or Less

This ordinance change was postponed from last month for the DPW Superintendent to review with his committee.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the update to the Village of Sebewaing Ordinance Chapter 34: Village Policies Section (§) 34.02 Purchases or Contracts \$5,000 or Less, to change the Department Head authorized spending limit from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and add "emergency" for maintenance items under \$10,000, both without prior approval from the Committee.

Adam: yea; Kaczorowski: absent; Kuhl: absent; Kunding: yea; Shenberger: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea. MOTION CARRIED

XII. New Business

A. Fireman Event

The Sebewaing Township Fire Department would like to host "Smoke and Sirens" event. There will be an entrance on Union Street, go through the former William Street, and exit on W. Sharpsteen Street. The event will be held on the former William Street.

Motion by Sting seconded by Shenberger to approve the use of 249 N. Center on July 25, 2025 by the Sebewaing Township Fire Department for their event, formerly known as William Street.

MOTION CARRIED

B. Zoning Administrator

Discussion concerning additional compensation for the Zoning Administrator. Tabled until next meeting.

XIII. COMMISSION REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS

B. Harbor Commission. Trustee Sting read minutes from May 5, 2025. Had a BAM shoot, veteran's walleye outing, and the Average Joe's Fishing Tournament. Filling the marina up with annual boat slip rentals. Doing a lot of repairs to get everything up to 100%.

C. Planning Commission. President Epperson stated they went over a zoning permit and a special use permit. Going to continue the Master Plan in a couple of weeks to review the surveys. Adam Arend, Coastal Community Development Coordinator with the Water Resources Division of EGLE (Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy), spoke to the Commission regarding programs and grant opportunities available to coastal communities.

D. Monthly Bills

Motion by Kundingler seconded by Adam to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$227,417.57.

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

Epperson: yea.

MOTION CARRIED

XIV. Public Comments. None

XV. Council Comments. Positive comments concerning the 60th Annual Michigan Sugar Festival and the Grand Opening of the Playscape.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion by Shenberger seconded by Sting to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:14 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing