

VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING

Regular Council Meeting – February 17, 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: None

Others: Rod and Noreen Tietz, Megan Tietz, Doug Deming, Leslie Shenberger, Matthew Kain, Elizabeth Shook, Matt Bumhoffer, Steve Repkie, Charlene Hudson, Linda Engelhardt, Justin Fritz, Dena Kish

IV. Agenda – February 17, 2025

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

MOTION CARRIED

VII. Correspondence. AMP Mosquito sent call list notification and script.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2025 Regular Council, January 30, 2025 and February 10, 2025 Budget Committee, and February 3, 2025 DPW, Administration, 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. Aerators removed from Pond 1 at lagoons. Sewer main on Elm Street was cleaned with Vactor truck. Repairing picnic tables as needed. Cab floor in JCB loader needs repair. Obtaining quotes for the JCB loaded. Three new batteries installed in 2004 International truck. Still waiting on estimates to replace front roof of Municipal building. Outside steel wall on DPW garage is rotted and needs replacing/repaired.

Fence railings for 42 and 50 N. Cener Street are built and painted. The basement wall next to the river will remain at the current height as of now per the Inter-county Drain Commission. Recommendation was made to hire an engineer for development of the property to include river access.

1. Purchase Pickup

Motion by Kunding seconded by Adam to approve the purchase of a used pickup no older than 2014, milage not to exceed 85,000, not to exceed \$15,000.

Adam: yea; Kuhl: yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Security Cameras

Motion by Kunding seconded by Kuhl to approve the purchase and installation of security cameras from B's Electric LLC at a cost of \$8,700.

Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Grounds Use Application(s)

a. USA Summer Recreation Softball League Opening Day

Motion by Kunderer seconded by Sting to approve the USA Summer Recreation Softball League for the use of the North Diamond (S. Third Street) for Saturday, April 26, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Sebawaing Chamber of Commerce

Motion by Kunderer seconded by Adam to approve the Sebawaing Chamber of Commerce Grounds Use Applications for the 2025 Easter Egg Hunt, Sugar Festival, Country Market & Music Festival, Moonlight Madness and Spirit of Christmas, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

B. Office Administration Department. Trustee Kuhl stated the second reimbursement payment has been received from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the Spark Grant/playground replacement. Public hearing will be scheduled for March 17, 2025 at 7:15 PM for the Fiscal year 2025-2026 budget and 2025 tax millage.

1. Budget Amendment

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Kunderer to approve the 2024-2025 fiscal year budget amendment to increase Police Department Capital Outlay – Over \$5,000 account by \$22,000 for the purchase of a police vehicle, as presented.

Kunderer: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

MOTION CARRIED

C. Police Department. Trustee Sting reported the 2020 Chevy Tahoe upfitting has not started and is not in service. Prosecutor's Office is going to a new system for receiving warrant requests and criminal justice information which requires individual encrypted email addresses. Blight will be re-addressed this month.

D. Light and Water Department. Trustee Sting reported on the monthly activity. The new workstation for fiber is in-service and Calix Care Management Support (CMS) software is installed. Michigan Public Power Agency (MPPA) power purchase commitment energy layers through 2030 in accordance with hedge plan. Investigating issues with Michigan Sugar Company scrubber fan and ponds which has failed to reclose and lost push button functionality. Water main break on S. Center and Mason Streets was repaired. Successful safety meeting completed January 7 & 8, 2025 with Alpha Omega Utility Services. CPR and first aid training completed with Scheurer Hospital January 15, 2025 for L&W, DPW, and Administration Office employees. A business and credit risk assessment, prepared by MPPA, was reviewed. The report compared 2023 to 2024 to determine L&W's debt issuance credit rating through financial strength and operations. Succession planning for Plant Supervisor in process. Alpha Omega will assist with updating the job description. BS&A cloud program will go live March 24, 2025. The final extraction of data will be March 20, 2025. The woodchip pile will be closed with a chain and sign stating authorized personnel only.

1. Financial Statement – December 31, 2024

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the Financial Statement for Sebawaing Light & Water Department ending December 31, 2024 submitted by Superintendent Hudson.

Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kunderer: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Operating Statistics – December 31, 2024

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the Operating Statistics Report for Sebewaing Light & Water Department ending December 31, 2024 submitted by Superintendent Hudson. MOTION CARRIED

3. Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) Public Act 95

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve L&W to Opt in to the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) Public Act 95 to be administered by the State of Michigan. Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

4. Pine Street Water Tower Hydrant and Valves

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the installation of valves and stop line at the Pine Street Water Tower and two valves on Beck Street by Watertap Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$12,000.

Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

5. Safety Meeting Agreement

The customized training is for required annual lineman training and other safety issues requested for lineman, generation and office staff. The five-year quote limits the cost increase to 3% per year.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve a three-year Safety Agreement with Alpha Omega Utility Services at a cost not to exceed \$29,000 in 2025, with a 3% increase every year, as presented.

Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

6. Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Motion by Sting seconded by Adam to approve the purchase of three Automated External Defibrillators (AED) and accessories from Aventric Technologies LLC at a cost of \$6,655.00.

Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

7. Electric Geographic Information System (GIS)

This will complete the GIS mapping of the electric system. The annual fee is for the software usage to operate the GIS.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve the contract with Mpower Innovations to provide field assessments and information gathering to input into a Geographic Information System (GIS) to map the electric infrastructure at a cost of \$37,750 plus the annual service fee starting at \$6,000.

Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

8. Generators

The two generators would supply the office and the fiber headend. In the event of a widespread power outage, the office will be able to respond quicker. It builds more redundancy in the system.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the purchase and installation of a 22kW generator

for the L&W Office and a 14kW generator with a sub-panel for the Main Street Plant Building to supply power to the Fiber headend by Clements Electric at a cost not to exceed \$33,000.

Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

E. Budget Committee. Trustee Sting stated the Village of Sebewaing and the Light & Water budgets are now complete. There were only a couple of minor issues to update after the last meeting.

F. Ordinance Committee. Per Trustee Kuhl, the committee discussed the ordinances to be updated and are currently awaiting legal review.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Council Vacancy

1. Trustee Resignation

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to accept the resignation of Robert Snider from the Village Council, Planning Commission, and Sebewaing Harbor Commission, with regret.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Trustee Appointments

Motion by Kunding seconded by Kuhl to approve the appointment of Leslie Shenberger to fill the term of Village of Sebewaing Trustee until the next Village election in November 2026, effective Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Kunding seconded by Sting to approve the appointment of Brian Kaczorowski to fill the term of Village of Sebewaing Trustee until the next Village election in November 2026, effective Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Nay; Kunding: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning Commission

1. Planning Commission Ex-Officio Appointment

Motion by Sting seconded by Kuhl to approve the appointment of Scott Adam to the Ex-Officio Position for the Planning Commission expiring July 31, 2026, effective February 18, 2025.

Adam: abstain; Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

B. Liability Insurance Coverage

Michigan Municipal League met with the individuals from the Administration Office and Harbor Commission. The liability insurance carried by the Village is higher than communities larger than the Village of Sebewaing. The Harbor Commission was advised to combine their policy with the Village of Sebewaing's to eliminate duplicate coverage.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kunding to approve liability insurance coverage of \$5,000,000.

Kuhl: Yea; Kunding: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

XIII. COMMISSION REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS

B. Harbor Commission – December 17, 2024 and January 14, 2025

1. Harbor Commission Appointment

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Adam to approve the appointment of Marcus Sting to the Ex-Officio Position for the Harbor Commission expiring January 31, 2027, effective February 18, 2025.

Kundinger: Yea; Sting: abstain; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Adam to approve the appointment of Christine Deming to the Harbor Commission Board with the 3-year terms expiring January 31, 2028, effective February 18, 2025.

Kundinger: Yea; Sting: abstain; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Epperson: Yea. MOTION CARRIED

2. Sebewaing Marina Property and Liability Insurance

Resolve by Sting seconded by Adam to rescind Resolution #03–2024-2025 to remove the Harbor Commission property and liability insurance from the Village of Sebewaing's policy.

Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kundinger: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED

Resolve by Sting seconded by Kundinger to approve Resolution #05–2024-2025 to add the Harbor Commission property and liability insurance to the Village of Sebewaing's policy with the Harbor Commission paying for the additional coverage.

Adam: Yea; Kuhl: Yea; Kundinger: Yea; Sting: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

RESOLUTION RESOLVED

D. Monthly Bills

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Adam to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$118,765.00.

Kuhl: Yea; Kundinger: Yea; Sting: Yea; Adam: Yea; Epperson: Yea.

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment. The applicants for Council were thanked for their interest.

XV. Council Comments. None

XVII. Adjournment

Motion by Kuhl seconded by Sting to adjourn the regular council meeting at 7:55 PM.

MOTION CARRIED

Julie Epperson
President, Village of Sebewaing

Dena Kish
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing