

August 22, 2023 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Regular meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Palmer at 7:00 p.m. Upon a roll call, Council members Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Webb was absent, Treasurer Acton, and Clerk Smith were present.

PUBLIC HEARING – MASS GATHERING ORDINANCE NO. 119

No comments were received. Closed at 7:05 p.m.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – Dye added Shalda Park Interpretive Sign language under Old Business. Walton asked that Presentation be moved to after Public Comments and New Generator for Water Wells be added under New Business.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Walton, support by Dye to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

PRESENTATION – Leelanau County Undersheriff Kiessel reported on Deputy coverage throughout the county. He noted that both Suttons Bay and Northport have contracts with the County for police services in their villages.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PRESENTATION – None.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Dye, support by Bacon too approve the Consent Agenda including minutes of the 8/10/2023 Work Session and bills totaling \$174,898.57. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – Financial reports were received and indicated that the Treasurer's Cash Balance by Fund report and the Clerk's General Ledger Cash Summary match by fund.

COMMUNICATIONS – An email from Rodney and Louann Barnes regarding the recycling site was received and read aloud by Palmer.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – Report from DPW Superintendent Friend was received and read aloud. Dye noted an email from Steve Stepanek regarding a broken door on port-a-john at Shalda. Bacon asked and Palmer responded regarding an apology from Terry Bacon that was received. He did not request that it be read aloud. Palmer reported on her meeting with a Township property owner regarding barbed wire fence adjacent to Shalda Park and on Lake St. property with renovation debris as a nuisance. Friend provided information on the recycling site and said he would look for Menard rebates.

COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS – Minutes of 8/15/23 meeting of the Short-Term Rental Committee and the 8-3-23 meeting of the Wastewater Task Force were received and reviewed. There was a consensus that the New Neighborhood be included in a new study. Council was asked if they would support an economic study for 3-7K. There was consensus that if the Task Force stays in the budget they may recommend how to spend the monies.

OLD BUSINESS

ADOPT MASS GATHERING ORDINANCE NO. 119 – Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to move Ordinance NO. 119 to the next Work Session. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE SHALDA PARK RULES SIGN – Motion by Dye, support by Walton to move this to the Work Session. Acton will contact Disability Network for suggestions. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE RESOLUTION NO.6 OF 2023 – Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to approve Resolution NO. 6 of 2023. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

REVIEW/APPROVE A REVIEW OF THE EMPIRE HILL CLIMB APPLICATION – Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to close 1 side of the following streets to parking in order to maintain emergency vehicle access: a) W side Lake St. from white house next to parking lot to Michigan St. b) N side Michigan St. west of M22 to Lake St. c) W side of Union St. from Michigan to Front St. There was discussion of consulting with the County Emergency Coordinator. It was noted that there was no indication in the application that these concerns would be addressed. These were the issues with the Asparagus Festival and why the Street Administrator made this suggestion. Motion and second were rescinded.

APPROVE SATURDAY SHARING WITH COUNCIL – Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to provide the attorney all the information about both the Coffee with Council before a meeting and the Saturday Sharing with Council and advise if either can be held legally and how. There was discussion of the rules and preferences for Coffee with Council before a meeting or Saturday Sharing with Council. The legal differences such as a quorum of council being present at one and not the other. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE POSTING FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE APPLICATIONS – Motion by Bacon, support by Chase to create a Community Asset Mapping Task Force with the following charge: create a list by Dec. 1, 2023, of Village assets using the attached documentation. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED. Motion by Bacon, support by Walton to allow the initial membership of this Task Force not be limited to a specific number; if a limit becomes necessary the membership should reflect diverse backgrounds/areas and reflect the economic diversity of the village. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED. Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to post page 2 of the documentation on the Home page of the Village website. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE STREETLIGHT GENERAL INFORMATION FOR COUNCIL – Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve the Policy for Council regarding Streetlights. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, W:alton. Nays: None. Absent: Webb. MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE POSTING STREET LIGHT INFORMATION FOR WEBSITE – Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to approve posting the information included in documentation on the Village website. Upon a voice vote, MOTION APPROVED.

SHALDA PARK INTERPRETIVE SIGN – Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to approve the wording included in Handout for the sign. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

NEW BUSINESS

VILLAGE OFFICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROPOSAL – Motion by Bacon, support by Palmer to approve professional feasibility study finalized by Renovare as Handout.

Motion by Rademacher, support by Dye to continue meeting until 9:30 p.m. Upon a voice vote with Bacon opposed, MOTION PASSED.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PAR PLAN RISK REDUCTION GRANT – Motion by Rademacher, support by Bacon to approve Resolution NO. 7 of 2023. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

APPROVE MML 2023 CONVENTION FOR PRESIDENT – Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to approve registration for President Palmer at this conference at a cost of \$595.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

GENERATOR PURCHASE – Motion by Rademacher, support by Walton to approve the \$60, 523.00 quote from Isenhardt Electric LLC for a propane generator. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Dye, Palmer, Rademacher, Walton. Absent: Webb. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Rod Barnes commented on traffic control at Shalda Park path.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT – Bacon commented on a consent agenda, discussion of financial reports and Robert’s Rules of Order.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:20 p.m.

Derith Smith Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approval at the September 14, 2023, Council meeting.