

## **December 12, 2024 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rademacher at 7:00 p.m. Upon a roll call, Council members Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, and Walton were present. Deputy Clerk Acton was also present.

**CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA** – County request regarding tax sale parcel was added under New Business and extending the Wastewater Task Force until June under Old Business.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to approve the agenda as amended. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS** – Joanne Beare commented on Street and Sidewalk plowing Policy.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Motion by Dye, support by Walton to approve the 11/14/24 Regular Meeting minutes and bills totaling \$4,981.20. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS** – The Revenue and Expenditure reports and the Cash Balance by Fund reports thru November were received.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS** – None.

**COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS** – None.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**CLERK APPOINTMENT** – Davis appointed Derith Smith as Village Clerk. **Motion by Rademacher, support by Chase to approve the appointment. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Rademacher Nays: Dye, Skrocki, Walton. MOTION PASSED.**

**EXTEND WASTEWATER TASK FORCE** – Motion by Dye, support by Rademacher to extend the Wastewater Task Force until June 2025. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE** – Motion by Rademacher, support by Chase to appoint Bacon as President Pro tempore. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**TREASURER PRO TEMPORE** – Davis appointed Chase as Treasurer Pro Tempore. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve Chase as Treasurer Pro Tempore. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**STREET ADMINISTRATOR** – Davis appointed Bacon as Street Administrator. **Motion by Rademacher, support by Chase.** Davis commented on a meeting regarding Wilco Rd. with National Park Service, Empire Township, Leelanau County Road Commission, Gosling Czubak engineer, Dr. Grobbel, Bacon and Davis. All have agreed to work together to address drainage issues, including grants. Bacon has also been working on Fischer St. extension and Davis feels she has been doing a good job. **Motion by Rademacher, support by Chase to approve Bacon as Street Administrator. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**Motion by Rademacher, support by Bacon to approve Maggie Bacon, Linda Chase, Dan Davis and Alacia Acton as signatories on State Savings Bank accounts and remove Sue Palmer and Meg Walton. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** – Davis appointed Dye as Chair with Chase and Skrocki as members to Parks Committee. **Motion to approve by Bacon, support by Rademacher. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Rademacher as Chair with Bacon and Walton as members to the Water Committee. **Motion to approve by Bacon, support by Dye. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Bacon as Chair with Dye and Skrocki as members to the Streets Committee. **Motion to approve by Bacon, support by Rademacher. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Chase as Chair with Rademacher and Skrocki as members. Skrocki declined and Walton was appointed. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Dye to the Airport Commission. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Walton to the ZBA. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

**ADVERTISE FOR PLANNING COMMISSION, ZBA AND OTHER OPENINGS** – **Motion by Walton, support by Bacon to advertise in the paper to start a running list for vacancies on the Planning Commission, ZBA and other committees for an amount not to exceed \$200.** Discussion included notice of any vacancy to be noticed on website, kiosk, library and offices. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

Davis appointed Bacon to Planning Commission. **Motion to approve by Rademacher, support by Chase. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

**SNOWPLOW POLICY** – Chase read the policy aloud and Davis asked if there was any need for changes. None were noted.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE** – Each section of the policy was read aloud by Council members and reviewed for needed changes. Sections 1.3, 3.2.3, 3.5, 6.3, 6.6, 6.12, 6.14, 10.1, 10.3, 11 were noted and all comments will be sent to Personnel Committee for recommendations to be considered not later than the April Work Session.

**PURCHASING POLICY** – Dye read the policy aloud. No objections were stated.

**LOT COMBINATION REQUEST 041-500-039-00 and 041-500-040-00** – **Motion by Rademacher, support by Dye to approve the lot combination as reviewed by ZA Hall. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**REQUEST FROM COUNTY REGARDING TAX SALE PARCEL – Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to notify the County Treasurer that the Village rejects ownership of this parcel.** Discussion included notification to adjacent parcel owners. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: Bacon, Chase, Davis, Dye, Rademacher, Skrocki, Walton. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Teresa Howes commented on designating the areas for dumping ash buckets and developing a policy for use of Village fuel pumps. Ina Hacker commented on increasing the wages for ambassadors by \$2/hr. as parking fees have increased and more are needed. Joanne Beare commented on the need for developing a policy for clearing sidewalks.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT** – Bacon commented on sidewalk clearing protocols. Beautification Committee appointments will be considered at the next meeting. Chase encouraged all to visit the new office, the blinds installed by Bob Chase and replacement of a door and window under warrantee. Walton requested a visioning session that includes compromise. Skrocki supported teamwork. Davis commented on working together in reviewing the pros and cons of each issue to benefit the entire community. He would like to utilize the old office for all committee meetings once it has been cleared and revised.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 8:43 p.m.

Derith Smith Empire Village Clerk

*These are draft minutes for approval at the January 9, 2025 Council meeting.*