

ONTONAGON VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT 5:00 PM ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025

AT 315 QUARTZ STREET, ONTONAGON

PRESENT: Lyle Perry, Mike Rebholz, Debra Seid, Dorothy Sharkey, Matt Wiesen, Pro-Tem Sarah Hopper, President Pam Coey

ABSENT: None

At 5:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by President Coey and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT (Five Minute Limit per Individual on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items):

Resident indicated she found the nepotism clause for the Village online, confirming a policy is in place.

Resident discussed the lot size required for chickens.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Planning Commission January 15, 2025

A motion was made by Seid, second by Rebholz (CARRIED), to approve the consent agenda as amended.

AYE: Seid, Rebholz, Hopper, Perry, Sharkey, Wiesen, Coey

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Perry, second by Wiesen (CARRIED), to approve the agenda as presented.

AYE: Perry, Wiesen, Hopper, Rebholz, Seid, Sharkey, Coey

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Rebholz, second by Sharkey (CARRIED), to approve the bills as presented.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Rebholz, Sharkey, Hopper, Perry, Seid, Wiesen, Coey

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: February 10, 2025

A motion was made by Seid, second by Perry (CARRIED) to approve the Council minutes as amended.

AYE: Seid, Perry, Hopper, Sharkey, Wiesen, Coey

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Rebholz

REPORTS

a. Financial Report

Financial Reports are available online and in the packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. MERS Update

We paid MERS \$50,251 on January 29th. This payment was due on February 20th. We are current with our MERS payments and our next payment will be due on March 20th. We will be making this payment on February 27th.

At this time, the Michigan Enhancement Grant that the Village received will cover the next 14 monthly payments. This equates to \$602,790. This will cover payments through March of 2026. The Village currently has \$759,000 in CDs and almost \$900,000 in cash. The current General Fund portion of the MERS payments is \$39,433. Based on this estimated payment, the Village has enough cash to make the following 26 payments bringing us through May of 2028. Through two grants, the Village made excess payments in the amount of \$2,927,219 which can be used to fund another 74 payments. This will bring us through July of 2034.

MERS estimates that Village payments will drop significantly in 2040. We aren't done with the MERS problem yet but I believe we are in a position to manage this issue as we move forward. I'll keep everyone updated as we receive more information.

b. Chicken Ordinance

The Council reviewed the pending Chicken Ordinance, presented its current draft, and scheduled a public hearing for March 10, 2025, at 4:30 PM.

A motion was made by Rebholz, second by Seid (CARRIED) to present the chicken ordinance draft as prepared and schedule a public hearing for March 10, 2025 at 4:30pm and to advertise.

ROLL CALL

AYE: Rebholz, Seid, Hopper, Perry, Sharkey, Wiesen, Coey

NAY: None

Absent: None

c. Recreation Center Lease

A draft of the lease is being prepared. Once completed, the Ad Hoc Committee will meet with the Hockey Association for review.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Ordinance 2025-02: Commission Amendments

The council agreed to make the recommended changes, at which time they will be voted on and added to the ordinance book.

b. Disbanding of Greenland Road School Commission

A resolution disbanding the Greenland Road School Commission will be presented to the Council for a vote at the next Council meeting.

c. MSHDA MI Neighborhood Grant Program – Tiff DeGroot

Tiff DeGroot with MSHDA MI Neighborhood Grant Program discussed available grants with MSHDA.

d. Marina Commission Resignation

A motion was made by Rebholz, second by Seid (CARRIED) to accept the Marina Commission resignation of Dennis O'Brien.

AYE: Rebholz, Seid, Sharkey, Perry, Wiesen, Hopper, Coey

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

e. Schedule Personnel Committee Meeting

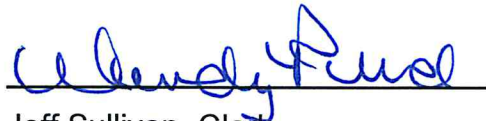
The Council approved a meeting with the Personnel Committee set for March 3, 2025 at 11:00 am in Council Chambers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

Those in attendance indicated the Yooper and the Beast was a great show.

It was moved by Hopper, second by Rebholz to adjourn at 5:44 p.m.

Meeting Minutes taken by Clerk Jeff Sullivan



~~Jeff Sullivan, Clerk~~

Wendy Pence, Clerk

07-28-2025
Approved