

VILLAGE OF SEBEWAING
Regular Council Meeting – March 18, 2019

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

Present: Melinda Driscoll, Julie Epperson, Brandy Gunsell, Dennis Kunding, Nathan Schulz, Marcus Sting

Absent: Scott Myers

Others: Matt Cummings, Linda Engelhardt, Christopher Germain, Charlene Hudson, Sami Khoury, Melanie McCoy, Paul Schnitker, Pete Smith, Megan Tietz, Dave Wiltse

Motion by Sting seconded by Gunsell to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Kunding seconded by Schulz to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2019 regular council meeting as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment

Sami Khoury, Huron County Commissioner, provided updates on county activity.

Committee Reports

A. Light & Water Committee

Trustee Sting provided updates on departmental activity including work on the engine plant is still ongoing with the official start currently scheduled for mid-May, future tree trimming and line clearance is dependent on the weather, and the arrival of the new Light & Water Superintendent.

B. Police Committee

Trustee Gunsell reported the community policing event "Coffee with a Cop" held March 6, 2019 was a success, the new police vehicle has been ordered, the police department office interior is scheduled to be painted, and the request by the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce 2019 Michigan Sugar Festival Committee to use the streets, parks, manpower and the parade route was reviewed.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Driscoll to approve the route for the Michigan Sugar Festival Grand Parade on June 15, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. to begin on Pine Street (M25) down North Center Street to East Main Street to end at the intersection of East Main Street and South Beck Street (M25).
Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kunding: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kunding to recess the March 18, 2019 Regular Council Meeting.
MOTION CARRIED.

Public Hearing: 2019 Tax Millage and 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to open the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED.

Present: Melinda Driscoll, Julie Epperson, Brandy Gunsell, Dennis Kunding, Nathan Schulz, Marcus Sting

Absent: Scott Myers

Others: Matt Cummings, Linda Engelhardt, Christopher Germain, Charlene Hudson, Sami Khoury, Melanie McCoy, Paul Schnitker, Pete Smith, Megan Tietz, Dave Wiltse

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kunding to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

The notice of public hearing was read. President Epperson requested comments from the public. Residents shared thoughts about the future budget.

Motion by Kunding seconded by Schultz to close the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED.

Resume Council Meeting

Motion by Sting seconded by Gunsell to resume the March 18, 2019 Regular Council Meeting.
MOTION CARRIED.

C. DPW Committee

Trustee Sting reported there is a new Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) grant available for small communities, the Muellerweiss Park Restroom's roof will be replaced, the proposed construction of two new little league diamonds in the South Park, upgrades to the electrical panel at the Hickory Court Lift Station, the annual Army Corps of Engineers' approved blasting on the river took place, requesting bids for handling the top soil and fill dirt for the 249 North Center Street Property, an Army Corps of Engineers meeting discussed the seawall behind 31 East Main Street, discussion regarding the sewer and trash bad debts, and the request by the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce 2019 Michigan Sugar Festival Committee to use the streets, parks, manpower and the parade route was reviewed.

Resolution by Sting seconded by Gunsell to approve the Village of Sebewaing to pursue funding through MDOT from the Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category B Program as established by Public Act 473 of 2018 for road maintenance in the Village as presented.

Gunsell: yea; Kunding: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

RESOLUTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Schulz to award the low bid of \$28,463.00 to B's Electric, LLC for the upgrades of the electrical panels for the Hickory Court Lift Station.

Kunding: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Sting seconded by Driscoll to authorize the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce permission to use the village streets (including closures), parks, and manpower from June 6 – June 16, 2019 for the 55th Annual Michigan Sugar Festival.

Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kunding: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. Budget Committee

Trustee Gunsell reported there is nothing new at this time.

E. Employee Relations Committee

Trustee Kundinger reported there is nothing new at this time.

F. Insurance Committee

Trustee Schulz reported there is nothing new at this time.

G. Office Administration Committee

Trustee Gunsell provided updates on departmental activity.

H. Ordinance Committee

Trustee Sting reported there is nothing new at this time.

Unfinished Business

Regarding the property at 249 North Center Street, the removal of the concrete is progressing.

The Village of Sebewaing is waiting for the approval of the Village of Sebewaing Master Plan.

The additional paperwork requested from the State of Michigan for the Village of Sebewaing Recreation Plan has been submitted.

Discussion regarding council meeting frequency.

New Business

Christopher Germain, from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, reported on the Village of Sebewaing's Redevelopment Ready Communities latest quarterly report sharing the positive items, as well as, the opportunities for strategic improvement and the availability of eligible funds to assist with meeting those improvements.

Several budget related items were presented.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Kundinger to amend the 2018-2019 fiscal year Governing Body Budget by \$8,000.

Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to amend the 2018-2019 fiscal year Refuse Collection and Disposal Budget by \$2,000.

Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kundinger to amend the 2018-2019 fiscal year Equipment Rental Budget by \$65,000 effective February 28, 2019.

Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Epperson:

yea.
6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to approve the 2019 Calendar Year millage tax rate of 14.5514; which includes 10.6894 for Village General Operating and 3.862 for Village Streets.

Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to approve the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget for the Village of Sebewaing / Sebewaing Light and Water Department as presented.

Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Sting seconded by Kundinger to approve writing off the bad debts for the 2017-2018 fiscal year in the amount of \$1,932.50 for all utilities.

Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion regarding the office staff wages. This was tabled until more information is available.

Other Business

Motion by Schulz seconded by Kundinger to accept the resignation of Melinda Driscoll from the Planning Commission effective immediately.

Driscoll: abstain; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Epperson: yea.

5 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent, 1 abstain.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Schulz seconded by Kundinger to appoint Jim Gunsell to the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring July 2021 on the Planning Commission effective immediately.

Gunsell: abstain; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Epperson: yea.

5 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent, 1 abstain.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Kundinger seconded by Schulz to appoint John Younglove to the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring July 2021 on the Planning Commission effective immediately.

Myers: absent; Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to approve the bills for the month in the amount of \$107,673.53.

Schulz: yea; Sting: yea; Driscoll: yea; Gunsell: yea; Kundinger: yea; Myers: absent; Epperson: yea.

6 yeas, 0 nay, 1 absent.

MOTION CARRIED.

Council Comment

Discussion regarding the blasting of the ice on the river and a welcome to the new Light & Water Superintendent, Charlene Hudson.

Adjournment

Motion by Gunsell seconded by Sting to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:27 p.m.
MOTION CARRIED.

Julie Epperson
President, Village of Sebewaing

Lois Kroll
Clerk, Village of Sebewaing