

FINAL

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Elberta Village Council

401 First Street | ELBERTA, MI 49628

March 9, 2023 @ 7pm

Call to Order and Pledge: 7:00 pm

Roll Call: Jen Wilkins – PRESENT | Emily Votruba – ABSENT (excused) | Ken Holmes – PRESENT | Ryan Fiebing – PRESENT | [Vacant Seat]

Audience: Dan Carter, Paul Olson, Norma Corwin (Clerk/Treasurer), Ken Bonney (DPW Superintendent), County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Ryan King

Minutes and Agenda Approval

- **Motion** by Holmes **to approve the** February 23, 2023, **Special Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes with no changes.** Seconded by Fiebing. ALL AYES. **Motion passed.**
- **Motion** by Holmes, seconded by Wilkins, **to approve the March 9, 2023, Regular Meeting Agenda** with the addition of No. 5, Resignation of Bill Shaw. **ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

Correspondence

- **State Treasury – B, S & A Software Funding Approval** \$34,645 has been received from State Treasury to purchase this software. Training has begun. Transferring of data est. to take a year.
- **Letter sent to Senator Bumstead – Historic Waterfront Park Repairs Request** Seeking \$1 million in repairs to LSS and Iron Works
- **Rebecca Hubers – Letter of Support Request for Radio Tower** To be sent by Votruba.

Inquiry of Conflict on Agenda Items: None

Brief Public Comment on Agenda Items

- **Dan Carter, Jammin' Mondays Committee** Second season begins end of June thru Sept. 4 (Labor Day); lineup is set. Fee due to Village could pay for one week's band. Requesting Village waive fee (\$900 total; resident discount rate applied)

Approval of Bills

- Check register in the amount of \$13,834.63 and \$3,362.53 Payroll. **Motion by** Holmes, seconded by Wilkins **to approve payment of bills.** Includes final payment to former clerk Roberta Benedict. **Roll Call: Wilkins AYE | Votruba ABSENT | Holmes AYE | Fiebing AYE | ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

Financial Reports

- Rev/Exp sheet. Trainings with auditors and state treasury, including Treasury-funded training for council to read the Rev/Exp sheet, financial literacy, date TBD

New Business

1. **Michigan Underwriters of West Michigan Inc. Michigan Township Par Plan Annual Payment** Paul Olson, colleague of Adam Gandolfi, who sold council its current plan, explained the 12% increase in our premium. Dramatic increases in rates in the insurance market generally; claim on AC unit at LSS from vehicular damage also led to bump. \$2.5 million blanket property coverage at time of quote; this year \$3.311 million. If we have a clean year premium may be reduced next year. Explained zoning and nonmonetary coverage; thinks our \$100K nonmonetary coverage is a "little heavy"; usually suggests \$25K to cover court costs. Left info on risk-reduction grant program. Discussed denial by insurance of claim on water main. Had to be within a thousand feet from any scheduled building (239 Grant Street Water Tank 1). Said he would check on water-main break claim. Discussed Public Act 22, municipal immunity for,

FINAL

for example, sewer backup. Said he would help fill out the claim. **Motion by** Wilkins, seconded by Holmes **to pay \$8,245.00 to Municipal Underwriters of West Michigan. Roll Call: Wilkins AYE | Votruba ABSENT | Holmes AYE | Fiebing AYE | ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

2. **Army Corps of Engineers – Elberta Beach Lease Agreement** Attorney will review new agreement when it's received. **Motion by** Wilkins, seconded by Fiebing **to pay \$9,430.00 for a 25-year Parks & Recreation lease with the Army Corps of Engineers for Elberta Beach. Roll Call: Wilkins AYE | Votruba ABSENT | Holmes AYE | Fiebing AYE | ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

3. **Fleis & Vandenbrink Services Proposal for Distribution System Materials Inventory (DSMI) and Drinking Water Asset Management (DWAM) Grant** to put Village water system on GIS map. Engineers' fee covered by grant. Work must be completed by February 15, 2026. DSMI must be completed by 2025. Much of mapping will be done (curbstops, mains, hydrants, etc.) during water project. **Motion by** Holmes, seconded by Fiebing **to authorize President to sign the DSMI and DWAM Grant proposal. Roll Call: Wilkins AYE | Votruba ABSENT | Holmes AYE | Fiebing AYE | ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

4. **Michigan Department of Natural Resources Watermain Easement Request #20220240 Payment** Instead of tearing up old M168, new water mains will go through DNR property. Restoration requirement is covered in project scope. Area will be prepared for the planned Betsie Valley Trail extension as part of water main project. Storm drain locations have been researched to prevent damage. **Motion by** Wilkins, seconded by Holmes **to pay \$5,700.00 to State of Michigan DNR for water main replacement easement. Roll Call: Wilkins AYE | Votruba ABSENT | Holmes AYE | Fiebing AYE | ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

5. **Planning Commission Member Resignation – Bill Shaw** Shaw moved and since there's already one nonresident member, he could not remain on the commission. Jon Ottinger, resident, has since joined. One vacancy remains. **Motion by** Fiebing, seconded by Holmes **to accept Bill Shaw's resignation from the Village Planning Commission. ALL AYES. Motion passed.**

Reports to Council

County Commissioner – Sauer / Verbal Report; campground fees up because State raised fees; approx. \$24 million lost to EVs. DEQ wants to cease mineral oil brining; permits may be required; milkweed and bats, brush cutting time may be shortened. Sutter Road. Comfort puppy. No foster homes in Benzie. Ironman permits. \$50,000 tribal consistency fund. 80% of Farm Bill is SNAP funding.

Frankfort Fire and Rescue Report – Cederholm/Written Report

LSS – K. Mills / 13 total rentals

Zoning Administrator – J. Mills / permit for greenhouse application

Betsie Valley Trail – No response from Benedict

Planning Commission – Fiebing / Draft chapters master plan reviewed; median income up from \$50K to \$75K; average age down from 50 to 36; how to create clear picture of census data; social security/pension income higher than working income; survey response rate up from last master plan.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Wilkins / No Meeting until May

DPW – Bonney / Verbal Report, See Personnel Reports. Water main repair nearly done; water tank to be filled and chlorinated; week from Monday tank to be in operation. Boiler in LSS malfunction. Survey of Robarge soon. Red pine, white spruce, matting for hill. Holmes mentioned bug in scotch pine (?) in EDNA.

Clerk/Treasurer – Corwin / Verbal Report Water project resident permission letters coming in.

BGFAC – Wilkins & Votruba / See Minutes. ARPA fund reporting in April. Interfund borrowing funding policy.

BLUA – Wilkins & Holmes /

Personnel & Policy – Holmes (DPW), Votruba (Office) / See Report; water meters need replaced.

Water/Sewer Committee - Wilkins & Holmes /

Extended General Public Comment

FINAL

- 1 • **Ryan King** (Benzonia) re marijuana ordinance; questions re Army Corps lease; and WFP appropriations
2 request

3 **Announcements** None

4 **Adjournment:** 8:30 pm by Holmes

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7 Final minutes prepared and posted by

8 Emily Votruba, Trustee