

Village of Fife Lake
Council Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call: Present: Perpich, Deike, Tornow, Hayes, Magee

Absent: Hempsted (excused), Throwbridge (excused)

Others: Werner- Village Clerk, Kitchin-Village Treasurer and Eby-Deputy Clerk

Approval of Agenda: Changes to the agenda is to move Hurley and Steward to the letter (a) under old business all other items under old business will be moved down. Deike made a motion to approve with the corrections, seconded by Perpich **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Minutes: Perpich made a motion to approve the December 18th minutes as presented, seconded by Magee. **Motion carried** with all yeas

Bills, transfers, and amendments: a copy of the bills and transfers were in the packet. No concerns voiced. Deike made a motion to pay the bills, transfers and amendments as presented, seconded by Perpich. **Roll call:** Deike-Y, Hayes-Y, Tornow-Y, Magee-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.**

Treasurers Report: Report in packet Kitchin has no new information. Hayes made to accept the treasurers report as presented, seconded by Deike. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Consent Agenda Items: Deike made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented, seconded by Perpich. **Motion carried** with all. Yeas.

DPW Report: report in packet

Zoning: no zoning report

Police/ Public Safety: Officer Whetstone was present. He said that he is trying to crack down on speeders within the community.

There was an incident downtown that resulted in a police chase. They are still looking person involved. No other issues. Police report was in the packet.

Guest: None

Public Comment: There were 24 comments pertaining to the proposed RV park. 17 people opposed the idea of an RV park and 7 others voiced concerns that they felt pertained to the RV park.

New Business

DPW full time position: Throwbride, Magee, and Hempsted talked to Nichole as she was the only one who applied for the job. Motion made by Magee to offer the full-time position to Nichole Salvaggio. Motion seconded by Deike. **Roll call:** Perpich-Y, Deike-Y, Tornow-Y, Hayes-Y, and Magee-Y. **Motion carried.**

DPW part time position: Deike made a motion to post the part time DPW Position, seconded by Perpich. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Zoning Administrator post position: Tornow made a motion to post for a Zoning Administrator position. Motion second Deike. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

FLAUA post open seat: There is one reappointment and one open position on the board. Hayes has applied for the reappointment. Deike made a motion to reappoint Hayes for a 4-year term

till 2027 and to post the open seat till the remainder of the term. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Motion carried** with one abstain.

Close Chase Accounts: The money was finally taken out of Chase and moved to the credit Union. It was discussed if Kitchin will be the person assigned to work with the bookkeeper to get the money into the right account. Motion made by Hayes to add Kitching to absorb whatever accounts are needed to put in the credit union. Motion seconded by Deike. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Audit RFP: Only one bid came in from UHY. Deike made the motion to hire UHY for accounting purposed for the 3-year term, seconded by Hayes. **Roll call:** Magee-Y, Hayes-Y, Tornow-Y, Perpich-Y, and Deike-Y. **Motion carried.**

Booking RFP: Only one bid came in from H&R Block. Perpich made a motion approve the H&R Block contract for 2024. Hayes seconded the motion. **Roll Call:** Deike-Y, Perpich-Y, Hayes-Y, Magee-Y, and Tornow-Y. **Motion carried.**

Monthly council meetings: Motion made by Perpich to approve the monthly meeting schedule for 2024, seconded by Magee. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

Tessa Johnson court case: a handout was given to all council members. Hayes and Hempsted wrote a letter to the county prosecutor which was also in the packet. The amount embezzled was \$48,793.74 was the amount embezzled. The bond company paid back \$46,809.87, an additional \$14,700.00 for an attestation audit, also another \$1612.00 in bookkeeping an additional audit required by the State of Michigan for \$14,400.00 for a total of \$32,696.37 of unrecovered funds. Her final sentencing was done on January 5, 2024 and received 6 months in jail and is to pay restitution to the village in the amount of \$32,696.37. Deike wanted to know how the village will get the money.

Budget 2024/2025 draft proposal: This is a rough draft a more finalized one will be available next month.

Appoint Zoning Staffing Report: Hayes made a motion to hire a gentleman to do the staff report as the Zoning Administrator. Motion seconded by Magee. **Roll call:** Perpich-Y, Deike-Y, Tornow-Y, Hayes-Y, and Magee-Y. **Motion carried.** This report is needed because we do not currently have a Zoning Administrator.

Old Business:

Hurley and Stewart RV Park: Alex Phelan from Hurley and Stewart is the engineer for the developer Mr. Brian DeSmit. He gave a presentation that focused on resident issues that came up at the Planning Commission public hearing on December 20th 2023. There was board discussion after the presentation. Hayes said based on the advice from the attorney and needing to obtaining other information pertaining to the RV park this will been to be tabled. She said she was not sure when a decision will be made. Deike made a motion to table further movement on the Hurley and Stewart RV Park until we as a council receive feedback from our

lawyer and have adequate time to do our own research. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Motion carried** with one nay and 4 yeas

Rural task force: Table

Merritt Street: This is currently with the attorney.

Online property tax solution: no update

DDA Open seat: tabled

JPC open seat: one application came in. Deike made a motion to appoint Paul McCool to the Planning Commission for a three-year term ending in 2027. Motion seconded by Perpich.

Motion carried with all yeas.

ZBA open seats: tabled

Memorial gift: Deike, Magee and Perpich will get together to discussing this.

Communications: There were 88 e mails that came in pertaining to the RV Park. 75 people were against the RV park, two people were for the park and 11 e-mails expressed their concerns either in favor or against but did no say either way how they felt. Several people submitted their e mail several times and were counted in the total count.

Public comment: Bob Menzies He requested a minute of silence for Ron Broering the Zoning Administrator who recently passed. This was done. He also commented saying that Nichole was doing a great job.

Margaret Birgy. She said that there are three people on the Howard Street alley that are over 80 years. She asked if the road could get plowed wide enough to allow ambulance and fire to get through. She also asked how to access the minutes. She asked about the council meeting dates.

Seven people commented on the RV park, discussing issues like communication between Planning and Council, how to vote, and other issues like how to get information pertaining to the RV Park.

Board Comments: none

Motion made by and seconded by to adjourn at

Respectfully Submitted

Marcia Eby