

Village of Fife Lake
Council Meeting Minutes
June 24,2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

Roll Call: Present: Tornow, Hayes, Perpich and Hempsted

Absent: Trowbridge (excused), Deike (excused), and Magee (excused)

Others: Werner- Village Clerk, Kitchen- Village Treasurer, and Salvaggio- DPW, and Eby
Deputy Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda: Hayes made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Tornow. **Motion carried** with all yeas

Minutes: Motion made by Perpich to approve the 5/20/24 minutes as presented, seconded by Hayes. **Motion carried** with all yeas

Bills Transfers & amendments: All questions were answered without question. Perpich made motion to approve the bills as presented, seconded Hempsted. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Tornow-Y, Hempsted-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried**

Treasurers Report: Hayes made a motion to approve the treasurers report, seconded by Hempsted. **Roll Call:** Hayes-Y, Hempsted-Y, Tornow-Y, Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda Items: Motion made by Perpich to approve consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Hayes. **Motion carried** with all yeas.

DPW Report: Report in packet. No questions or concerns voiced.

Zoning Report: Report in packet. Radtke talked about the Merritt house blight saying that the house is now part of the Grand Traverse land bank. He said there was an option for the village to take it at market value or to let the county take the house and sell. The house market value is \$50,000. The village said they did not want to take it. The next step will be to put it up for auction.

Radtke said that there were properties in South Town that that raised concerns as to whether a permit was obtained for work that was done. This is being investigated.

He said that some of the village ordinances need to be updated. Hempsted said he would get a committee together to investigate this.

Both zoning administrators (village and Township) would like to do a zoning class for both the township and village.

Police/ Public Safety: report in packet. No real problems in the village in the last month.

Guest: none

Public Comment: Lisa Leedy 125 Morgan Street – Township supervisor. She said that the townships budget hearing is on Thursday. The township is working on improvements for the parking lot with lighting. They also replaced a garage door through a grant

Mammoth Distilling is purchasing Pugsley to do mass production of rye for whiskey that will be produced there also. It is expected to close in 60 days.

On Friday the everyone is welcome to come have coffee with the county at 9am at the township hall.

The township is looking for an engineer of record.

Leedy said that they most likely will not be sending their tax records out on time due to not being able to sync with the county. The county system is not up completely due to cyber problems.

The township is looking into amending the land division process. Due to a lot of problems with sketchy land deals.

Debbie McCool- Chamber of Commerce Chair, she handed out a copy of the most recent newsletter and said that another newsletter will be coming out soon designated solely to the 4th of July. She encouraged the council to sign up to get it as it going to be electronic only. She said that the street closures for the 4th are all taken care of. Hempsted said that he wanted to get together with Warner, McCool Salvaggio, and Terbeek to make sure everyone is on the same page. McCool said she was getting together with the police officer on Wednesday.

New Business

Tax Millage Request: This is a 2024 tax rate request. The public hearing was held in February. This just needs a vote. Hayes made a motion to approve the tax village tax rate request. Motion seconded by Hempsted. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Tornow-Y, Hempsted-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.**

4th of July Porta Jon/ candy: Hempsted made a motion to not spend no more than \$200.00 on candy for the 4th of July. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Hempsted-Y, Tornow-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.** The porta-jon's have already been ordered.

Buffalo BBQ Donation: The village has historically covered the cost of the tent for the 4th of July BBQ. Motion made by Hempsted to give \$300.00 for a tent to B&B tent rental for the Buffalo BBQ. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Perpich-Y, Hempsted-y, and Tornow-Y. **Motion carried.**

Fire Barn: The Historical Society's fire barn has more wood damage than previously thought. This will cost more money. This Historical Society was asking for a donation. After council talked about it was decided to table this to see if the cost goes higher than donate.

Property Tax Bills: Kitchen said that the electronic payment for tax bills is up and running. The discussion on when to send the tax bills out came up again If they are sent out on time a note should be put in with the bill saying that the taxes may change due to the IT warfare at the county level. The other option is to send the bills out late and adjust the due date and interest pay when late.

Youth Volunteer Program: they will be here till August 25th. They work 8-12pm with two gentlemen volunteering

UHY Audit: The audit is going on right now.

Old Business

Clerk & DPW Compensation: Hempsted, Deike and Magee got together to review the clerk and DPW employees. The review documents are outdated. The committee will continue to get together to update the paperwork.

Hempsted made a motion to change the clerk (Werner) wage from \$17.00-\$19.00/ hr with a yearly review in February 2025. Her pay raise will be retro from March 1 of 2024. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Tornow-Y, Hempsted-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.**

Hempsted made the motion to change fill time DPW employee's (Salvaggio) wage from \$19.00-\$21.00/hr with a review date in August of 2024. Motion seconded by Hayes. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Hempsted-Y Tornow-Y, and Perpich-Y. **Motion carried.**

Motion made by Hempsted to give the part time DPW employee (Terbeek) a raise from \$19.00-\$21.00/hr with a yearly review in October 2024. Motion seconded by Perpich. **Roll call:** Hayes-Y, Perpich-Y, Hempsted-Y, and Tornow-Y. **Motion carried.**

Merritt Street Blight: Discussed under Zoning Report

Online Property Tax solution: Discussed under tax bills

Rural Task Force: Hempsted is working with Mary about our roads. Leedy gave a history of what Fife Lake was doing regarding the Rural Task Force. She said the last project we had was 2006.

Farmers Market- Vendor Ordinance: this is being investigated. Hempsted has sent it out to the attorney.

Communication: none

Public Comment: Paul McCool asked about the at large position on the Planning Commission. Nick Crim 203 State Street said that he is concerned about mowing at the Lakeside Park when people are down there.

George Gauld 314 Pierce Street- a group of people that he knows wants to know what they get for their tax dollars. He would like something printed out.

Board Comments: Tornow would like to know what is going to be done with the alley behind Kimballs. This is the alley that was repaired last fall and is washing out again. Hempsted said he is waiting until we get an engineer.

Motion made by Perpich and seconded by Hayes to adjourn at 7:42pm

Respectfully Submitted
Marcia Eby