

SUNFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL
August 12, 2024
MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL 2024-2025

MEETING HELD SUNFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 PM

ROLL CALL: Present: Beers, Fox, McCoy, Morris, Peabody and Steele. Clerk Snedegar read a text message from President Decker, received at 6:48 pm. Medical emergency with husband.

Clerk asked Morris to lead the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER lead by Morris.

GUEST COMMENTS: Mike Haskin representing the Fire Department and discussed the need for a special assessment for the future funding of the Sunfield-Sebewa-Danby Fire Authority. Joanna Wellwood discussed the concern with the council and the Senior Lunch program. Clerk Snedegar had spoken with past President Weller on the involvement of the council and the program. To his recollection, Trustee Martin discussed with the council a separate meal program than the Meals-On-Wheels that would advance the menu. The Village of Sunfield, since 2016, has contributed \$750 donation to the Sunfield Nutritional Site. Wellwood noted that she has been involved with the program together with Martin. The concern brought to the council is the balance in the checkbook. Morris would like to meet with the Senior Lunch group at the next meal to further investigate. Clerk Snedegar volunteered to join Morris. Guest Christine Barnes said that she understands the program was not offering to new attendants a meal and was concerned people are getting turned away. Both Wellwood and Jane Monasmith stated no one has been refused a meal. Guests Crystal Smith and Scott Smith were in attendance and had nothing to comment at the opening of the meeting.

EATON COUNTY SHERIFF REPORT: 11 calls

TREASURER'S REPORT: Grosshans distributed to the council trustees the completed 2022-2024 Audit completed by Drake CPA. Tax collections continue, and Grosshans will be in the Village Office on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, to collect tax payments in person. Grosshans advised the council that she has been in contact with the Union Bank for a check scanner. This will allow her to scan check payments at her home office, instead of making several trips to the bank. There are still some concerns she has on how this will function with the Water/Sewer split deposits. Motion made by Beers and seconded by Steele for Grosshans to purchase a \$200 gift card for Strimbeck who managed the 2024 ballfield schedule. Motion passed. Grosshans then reviewed the credit card charges. There was not a motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: The council took a moment to review the list of bills. Snedegar asked the council to add and approve the copy of Stowell Builders bill requesting an advance for the blueprints and permits on the new pavilion in Van Buren Park. Clerk Snedegar also reviewed the distributed spreadsheet listing the Consumer Energy list of accounts and payment history. There were no further questions about the report. Motion made by Beers and seconded by Steele to accept and pay the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No questions or concerns regarding the minutes from the July meeting. The motion was made by Beers and seconded by Steele to approve the July minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

DPW: Desgranges reminded the council that this was Farmers Picnic week. They will sweep the streets on Wednesday and complete the ballfield cleanup. The flower beds are already done. Desgranges ran through a list of known trees on Logan, Washington, and various other streets in the Village that needed to be removed. Motion made by Beers and seconded by Steele to spend \$10,000 on the removal of these various trees throughout the Village of Sunfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Desgranges then reviewed the Sanitary Water Survey recently performed by the state. In the 8-page report 7 deficiencies were reported. At this time 3 have been completed. He was in the process of completing the remaining 4. There is a deadline of August 31, 2024. This brought him to report that the Cross Connection program was in the final stages and the recent report from Hydrocorp listed only 45 addresses not in compliance. Question asked of Desgranges if he had received any quotes to fence around the water tower, and well house generator? His reply, not at this time.

WATER & SEWER: none given outside of the Treasurer report.

OLD BUSINESS: The first item on the agenda for old business is the continued discussion on the Fire Department budget and establishing a special assessment. Clerk Snedegar reported the information from the Village of Sunfield Attorney. The Clerk distributed to the trustee's the Township's publication in the newspaper announcing their special assessment including the Village of Sunfield. Snedegar stated because of this the village had no action to take. At which time Guest Scott Smith noted that the township did not include village residents. An in-depth conversation regarding the status of the village and a special assessment led to Smith contacting the Township Superintendent and Clerk. The matter was tabled.

Morris announced to the room that the pavilion would not be completed by Farmers Picnic. Once a permit was applied for to expand the size the county denied it because the size of the forthcoming pavilion requires a commercial permit. This took 3 weeks and has been approved. The decision was made to put on hold a new pavilion at Foltz Field. Guest Smith again suggested holding a meeting with the township who have stated they still have ARPA funding available. Smith invited the council to attend the township meeting on September 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the township hall.

The Water Tower is completed. Desgranges reported that another inspection is scheduled to complete the punch list of two items. One being the light bulbs and the other some additional painting. Because of the down time of the operational water tower for the repairs and painting this caused problems with the screen plugging causing the check valve to stay open. This caused a rust coloration to the water. Residents have been advised to run their water for excessive time. Confirmed that there are no contaminants, just visible iron. Testing will continue throughout the week. The estimate for the repair to well #3 is approximately \$40,000.

The information to purchase a new zero turn lawn mower and off set brush hog is tabled for next meeting once John Deere financing has been finalized.

NEW BUSINESS: Morris tabled an ordinance involving RV and Boats parked within the village. There was no other new business to discuss.

COORESPONDENCE: no correspondence read.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Beers and seconded by Steele to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Minutes taken and summarized by Tricia Snedegar, Village Clerk. This summary of minutes is not official until approved by the Village Council at the September 9, 2024, meeting.