

The regular meeting of the Harrisville City Council was held on November 13, 2023 at the City Office.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Gehring and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present: Mayor Gehring, Treasurer Luenberger, Clerk Pierce.

Roll Call: Council Members: Bauermeister, Kaiser, Schwanz, Mason, Bean, Vanderheuel.

Motion to approve the agenda with addition of planning commission ordinances, by Bean, support by Schwanz. Motion carried: 6-0.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Kaiser to approve the minutes of October 9, 2023. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Mason, support by Vanderheuel, to pay the bills in the amount of \$62,096.80. Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Gerhing addressed correspondence from The Foster Family in support of Pam McCann's proposal to place a "tiny home" on her property adjacent to theirs as a temporary residence while she decides on a permanent house. Discussion.

Mayor Gehring addressed the Lake Huron Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda of October 10, 2023. Discussion.

Mayor Gehring asked to set the Water/Sewer Budget Meeting for 2024 for November 28, 2023 at 5:30 PM and the Special Budget meeting for 6:00 PM November 28, 2023.

Motion by Schwanz, support by Bean to set the Water/Sewer Budget Meeting for 5:30 PM on November 28, 2023 and the Special Budget meeting for November 28, 2023 a 6:00 PM. Motion carried: 6-0.

Harrisville Harbor By-Laws review. Discussion.

Motion by Bauemeister, support by Mason to approve the Harrisville Harbor By-Laws as approved by the Harbor Commission on August 7, 2023 and reviewed by the City Attorney on October 2, 2023. Motion carried: 6-0.

Alderman Schwanz presented her research regarding the availability of using Zoom for streaming city council meetings. Discussion.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Bauermeister to table vote until the December 11, 2023 city council meeting. Motion carried: 6-0.

Mayor Gehring updated council as to proposal from Huron Engineering for construction of wooden stairs and viewing platform at the harbor. Discussion.

As decreed by Mayor Gehring, Holiday Office Closures shall be:

Thanksgiving: November 23 and 24, 2023. Christmas: December 25, 26, 2023. NewYear: January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>., 2024. The city office will reopen Tuesday, January 3, 2024.

Tree Advisory Council update. Advisory Council asking city council approval of the Tree Advisory Council Mission Statement. The Tree Advisory Council will establish practices which govern the planting and care of trees for the public good, and to enhance biodiversity.

Motion by Bean, support by Schwanz to approve the Tree Advisory Council's mission statement. The City Council herein delegates the authority and responsibility for managing the public trees in Harrisville to the Tree Advisory Council. Motion carried: 6-0.

Mayor Gehring presented to council Lane Schwanz's proposal for a Disc Golf Course and funding from the city of \$3963.00 for costs of the equipment and materials and signs for the proposed course. Discussion.

Council agreed to take no action on the proposal and recommended the proposal be sent back to the Planning Commission and be included as part of the Recreation Plan.

Mayor Gehring presented Alcona County's Intergovernmental Agreement pertaining to consolidation of election activities for nine (9) consecutive days, eight hours each day, for all State and Federal elections prior to actual election dates. Discussion.

Motion by Bauermeister, support by Vandeheuel to approve Alcona County's Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion carried: 5-0. One abstention.

The Harbor Bathroom Invoice of \$1156.00 for the extra hours to keep the harbor restrooms open for the Tuesday night Open Mic Nite Night for two months prior to the regular summer season, and one month after the boating season, was brought to council by Mayor Gehring. Discussion.

Planning Commissioner Schwanz presented the amended zoning ordinances approved by the Planning Commission at their Public Hearing on November 8, 2023.

Motion by Schwanz, support by Vanderheuel to approve the amended ordinances. Ayes: Kaiser, Bauermeister, Mason, Bean, Schwanz, Vanderheuel. Nays: 0.

Council voted on Resolution # 2023-07 Local Governing Resolution for Charitable Gaming Licenses to amend request from the Alcona County Library to Friends of Alcona County Library of Harrisville, County of Alcona.

Motion by Bauermeister, support by Schwanz to amend request to "Friends of Alcona County Library". Ayes: Kaiser, Bauermeister, Mason, Bean, Schwanz, Vandeheuel. Nays: 0.

## REPORTS

Mayor Gehring updated council about the kickoff meeting with OHM Engineering for the beginning phase of the Lagoon Project. The project will begin in 2025.

Clerk Pierce reports the Special Election of November 7, 2023 went very well. A total of 110 votes were cast with 41 ballots being Absent Voter ballots. The total votes cast were: YES-51, NO-59.

Treasurer Luenberger reports that Winter 2023 Taxes will be sent out December 1, 2023. The city has received the playground grant reimbursement money from the state.

Harbor Commission is open for fuel supplies only. The harbor is preparing for the winter season and is beginning the placement of bubblers around the docks.

Liaison Schwanz will post a vacancy to be filled on the planning commission. There will be a January 3, 2024 Public Hearing for review of the Recreation Plan. The notice will be posted in the newspaper.

Tree Advisory Council will hold a meeting November 20, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Comment Cards: Tim Slezeck reported on the cleaning of the raceway at the Mill Pond which was very successful. A volunteer pledged to pay for the dredging of the Mill Pond if necessary. The DEQ will inspect the pond at a later date. Brenda Bray had some questions concerning the zoning for "tiny houses", the status of the stairs at the harbor, and the use of Zoom for council meetings. Monica Spears reported on the number of street lights on Main Street which need replacement, the fact that the city website is not up to date, and full trash cans on some of the poles on Main St. Teri O'Callaghan shared that the Arts Council is planning to have a tree

lighting at the end of Main St. on Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 5:30. Caroling, cocoa, and cookies will be part of the festivities.

Councils Last Comments: Alderman Schwanz has used and greatly appreciates the availability of “All Paid” for use of paying city taxes and city water/sewer bills. The QR codes for these are on the city website: [harrisvillemi.org](http://harrisvillemi.org).

Motion to adjourn by Schwanz, support by Bean. Adjourned at 8:49 P.M.

Next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Published prior to council approval.

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_