

## VILLAGE OF COPEMISH

### MEETING MINUTES

October 10, 2023

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** by President Shannon Saunders at 7:02 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** 7:02 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** Shannon (P) Elaine (P) Mike (P) Jan (P) Clifford (P) Mary (P)

**VISITORS:** Heidi Mead, Dave Myers, Clark Scarbrough, Dale Humphry, Debra Longo, Pat Milliron (Arrived at 8:30pm)

**AMEND/SET AGENDA:** No approval motion made.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** \*Dave Myers gave an update on the proposed Township Park project. His intent is to submit the \$500 permit application this month providing he gets the necessary support filling out the application. We may need other State and possibly Federal agencies besides EGLE to get approval to develop the wetlands. \*Heidi Mead would like to start an area food bank. She will need volunteers, including maybe teenagers. She feels there is a big need for this in the community. She would like to emulate what the Manistee area is doing. She would also like to offer assistance with building ramps and other handicap needs. She is seeking grants, a building, and support from the community. Several area building possibilities were brought up (Bar, old churches, Village Hall garage, previous community center/fire station). The Council supports her project. Heidi's phone: 231 632-0463. \*Mike Longo asked for clarification as to when he is allowed to speak. Shannon said it is OK for any Council member to respond to public comments, or speak on other issues as a member of the public during public comment. \*Debra Longo would like to know the status of closing the road across from her house. She would like to get copies of the paperwork. Elaine will provide the paperwork. Debra has the paperwork from the ally closure just East of her house.

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

- **MINUTES FROM LAST COUNCIL MEETING:** No discussion.
- **PAYMENT OF THE BILLS:** Brief discussion, normal bills, a couple of land use permit deposits.
- **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Shannon read off all the fund balances. Capital Improvement Bond Fund is about to get bigger due to incoming taxes.
- Motion to approve the Minutes, bill payments, & Treasurer's report made by Mike, seconded by Clifford. Vote - AIF.



**STREET ADMIN. REPORT:** \*Clifford informed the Council that Tony got his new tractor. \*Still need tubes for the bottom of the "V" plow. \$270 was approved last month. \$300 resolution approved this month under new business. However, there was no motion or second. \*Still need to address the drain system. Estimate to inspect, use of a scope/camera, map out the pipes - \$12,000 from Power Vac. We have a map of the storm drains. Some pipes appear to be crushed. Consensus of the Council: Wait until Spring and budget money for next FY. Shannon and Clifford will continue to work with Power Vac and try to obtain cost estimates. Grants may need to be applied for. Clark also brought up the possibility of using ground penetrating radar. Springdale Township has recently requested this type of equipment through the County Revenue Sharing Fund. This will help them identify old unmarked graves.

**PLANNING COMMISSION AND ZONING REPORT:** \*Issues with the trailer that Frank Gillis moved in on State Street: Chuck Erickson, State Building Inspector, made Frank correct a few issues, but Frank appears to have never got the required land use permits from the Village. Frank requested State Building permits on-line, not through Chuck. Also, how did Consumers Energy provide electrical hook-up without a permit? Mike seems to think Frank did get the necessary permits and has an e-mail from the Village indicating it was OK to put in the trailer even though Mike advised Frank the Village would not approve it. The Village will send Frank a letter addressing these issues. If necessary, the Village Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals will address the zoning issues and recommend a plan to the Village Council, which has the final say on issues that affect our ordinances. \*Ordinance violation letters: Fines. We have been issuing \$250 (or more) fines. We can't exceed the State limit of \$145 (Shannon thinks). Motion for a resolution to amend the fees for all ordinance violations to \$100 made by Mary, seconded by Clifford. Vote: Shannon - Yes, Clifford - Yes, Mary - Yes, Mike - Yes, Jan - Yes.

**PRESIDENT REPORT:** \*Splash pad and park upgrade - grant update: Shannon had Moore Mechanical out to look at plumbing for flushing toilets and drinking fountains. They submitted a bid on the last day, saying they were not able to do it for us. Shannon was able to get a \$24,000 bid from Power Vac. Shannon also asked a company (TC Pool & Spa) that does splash pads for a bid. Shannon was not impressed, but they did provide some drawings. Rail road theme looks interesting. They took too long to submit a bid. We missed the current grant deadline, but can resubmit next cycle.

**OLD BUSINESS:** \*Loan for Imhoff Drive: Elaine is still having issues with Honor Bank. She has tried three times to get it resolved. Shannon will try to resolve. \*Drain system update: Covered under Street Admin. Report. \*Halloween Trunk or Treat event in the Village Park (Oct. 31, 6-8pm): The Village is partnering with the Township. Shannon has volunteered to supply hot dogs, chips, hot chocolate, coffee, Halloween music. The Township (Mark Griner & Dave Myers) will mail out notices/flyers to all Village and Township residents, have a fire truck present, provide financial support for prizes for best decorated trunk (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place) and other expenses. No public funds will be used. Can we get the Fire Dept. or State Police to do candy



safety checks? Early volunteers needed to help decorate the Park. **\*Christmas decorations:** Several hand-made ideas discussed. Volunteers needed – signup sheet for early November. Decorations to go up right after Thanksgiving. Goal is to decorate both parks and all the main streets.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **\*New Camping ordinance:** Possible issue with homeless people bussed in from Traverse City that could camp in our parks. Planning Commission to work on along with storage/shipping containers. **\*Trees/dead limbs need to be trimmed:** Consumer's Energy needs to go through the Village and remove dead limbs to avoid power outages. Shannon would like to team up with the Township to develop a plan for dealing with a widespread power outage. **\*Revisit Mish-A-Mish sale to M&R Products:** Shannon wants to research how the sale happened, review the purchase agreement, find out where the money went. This sale does not appear to have been legal. If so, not sure (options) how to fix it. Also, there's a possible issue with the sale of Village and Fire Dept. property to Arc-angle. Reason to revisit: Grants. Sale of Village property to Honor Bank may have been done correctly if it was done by a vote of the residents. The Village does own other property that could be sold, that is not a park, as long as the proper procedure is followed. **\*Maintenance needs for the Village Hall, winterization:** Furnace also needs attention. Motion made by Mary to allow Tony to purchase pipe insulation, heat tape, 4x8 sheet of foam and a roll of foam. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jan. Vote – AIF. **\*Vehicles/campers parked on road right-of-way:** Two known examples. Ordinance violation. Zoning administrator will handle.

**ADDITIONAL PUBLIC OR COUNCIL COMMENTS:** None.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Clifford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike. Vote - AIF. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by Elaine Gibbs, Village of Copemish Clerk.