

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA
Monday, October 2, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT:	Flynn
COUNCIL:	Hafer, Moss, Myers, French, Herryman
CLERK:	Cutler
TREASURER:	Flynn
SUPERINTENDENT:	Pritchard
ASST SUPERINTENDENT:	
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Kirk
PUBLIC:	Rhonda Nye, County Commissioner; Ken Mlcek, Steve Adams
ABSENT:	Giatti

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Meeting of the Benzonia Village Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Flynn.

ATTENDANCE TAKEN BY CLERK

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Flynn adds 3) Appointment of Assistant Superintendent, 4) DWRP Funding Application

French moves, supported by Myers, to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- September 11, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - **Herryman moves, supported by Hafer, to approve the September 11, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Adams, Benzonia Fire Chief asks the Village for permission to close the street for Trunk or Treat between 4:30 and 8:30 p.m. on Halloween, and for the use of the Village barricades. **Hafer moves, supported by Moss to allow the Fire Department to close the street and use of barricades on Halloween. Ayes: All, Nays: Motion Carried. Absent Giatti.**

ACTION ITEMS:

- Bills List – **Myers moves, supported by Herryman to approve payment of the bills for the month of October 2023 in the amount of \$107,312.62. Roll**

Call: Moss, Hafer, Herryman, Myers, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti

- Treasurer's Report – Treasurer presented Treasurers report. **French moves, supported by Moss to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti**
- Appointment of New Employee – Hafer presented candidates and information about the interviews, Brady Cole was selected as the new Assistant Superintendent, with a start date of 10/16/23. **Hafer motions, supported by French to select Brady Cole as the New Superintendent. Ayes: All, Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti**
- **DWRF Funding Application** – Ken Mlcek discussed the DWRF Funding Application, the Village qualified for overburdened community, which was a 50% grant and 50% DWRF Loan, total project cost was \$4.2 million. Village ranked at 70 points, communities that received full funding were at 85 points or higher. Village will apply again for Spring 2024. If funded, we would know by 10/1/24, construction would begin summer of 25, first bond payment would be due by fall of 25. **French moves, supported by Herryman to allow Ke Mlcek to continue with the intent to apply for Spring 24. Ayes: All, Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti.**

UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- Continued discussion regarding the Benzie County Road Commission Contract for 2023-28, Joel Nedow Financial Manager at the Road Commission answered questions for the Board about the contract regarding overhead rate, billable services, equipment rates, and materials. **Hafer rescinded original motion moves, supported by Myers to accept the Road Commission Street Maintenance Contract, and allow the President to sign. Ayes, All, Nays: None Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti.**
- Revisited Fleis & Vandenbrink Proposal for Capital Improvements – Discussion took place regarding the Capital Improvement Plan by Fleis & Vandenbrink and the conditions of the RRC. Ken Mlcek, will revise the original proposal to break out the PASER Ratings as this needs to be completed sooner than later. **Hafer & Moss rescind original motion. Hafer moves, supported by Moss to approve the initiating of the PASER Rating Project and to include other CIP material at a later date from Fleis & Vandenbrink not to exceed \$13,400.00. Roll Call: Moss, Hafer, Myers, French, Herryman, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Giatti.**
- **USDA loan Payoff** – Treasurer discussed email from Blake Smith in regards to recommending a payoff on the 91-5 loan of \$113,000 with excess funds remaining in the Water Fund. **French moves, supported by Hafer to payoff the 91-05 Loan in the Water Department for \$113,000. Roll Call: Myers, Moss, Hafer, Herryman, French, Flynn. Nays: None, Motion Carried. Absent Giatti.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

- DNR Sparks grant email – Notification that Spark Grant award will follow the second week of October.
- WC Dividend Distribution 23/24

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular October 2, 2023 meeting minutes

COMMISSIONER REPORT:

- 5.46% interest with Michigan Class
- 5 foreclosed parcels sold
- Jail taking GT County inmates again
- \$75k of ARPA money approved for Animal Control connection to Village of Beulah water system.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

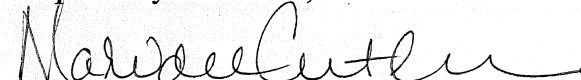
- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular October 2, 2023 meeting minutes
- Requests legal review of Zoning Ordinance, Sara will follow up with local units of government to see who they are using for legal counsel.
- Note: Proposed Zoning Ordinance has a revised zoning board of appeals, with three members and two alternates for meetings.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Clerk – What is the status of the sewer feasibility study? Wade Trim is supposed to supplying meeting minutes. Everyone is asking but none of the units have any updates.
- Treasurer asks for new chairs for the office

French moves, supported by Myers to adjourn meeting at 7:30 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Maridee Cutler,
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: October 7, 2023

APPROVED: November 6, 2023