

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA
1276 MICHIGAN AVENUE
BENZONIA, MI 49616
MONDAY, June 7, 2018

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT: Flynn
COUNCIL: Bair, French, Misner, Rankin, Scholten
CLERK: Nye
TREASURER: Flynn
SUPERINTENDENT: Boman
ASST SUPERINTENDENT: Marshall
ZONING ADMIN: Carland
VISITORS: John Mead, Mitch Deisch
ABSENT: Heyn - Excused

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

ATTENDENCE TAKEN BY CLERK

VISITORS: John Mead, Benzie County Judge, distributes handout and discusses scope of expanding duties and range of responsibilities – would like to remain Probate Judge and would appreciate votes.

Coury Carland, County Commissioner, updates Council on matters at the County level:

- Beulah leased property from the County for the new water tower
- Final stages for finance administrator
- Getting bids for a financial analysis to create a capital improvement plan
- Budget process beginning
- Watershed situation in Beulah discussed at Planning Commission meeting
 - Potential to create a new drain district
- Celebration for Frank Walterhouse next Wednesday at noon

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes May 2018. **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve the May 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**

SET MILLAGE RATE:

Treasurer shares that Village 2018 Taxable Value has decreased from 2017. Maximum millage permitted for General Fund = 9.3161. 2017 set at 9.2000. Treasurer recommends setting the

rate at 9.3000 which would generate an additional \$1,770.74 for the General Fund. Discussion. **French moves, supported by Scholten, to approve a General Fund Millage Rate 2018 at 9.3000. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**

CLERK’S CORRESPONDENCE:

- CLCBA – Request for Music in the Park donation. **Misner moves, supported by Rankin, to approve a community promotion check in the amount of \$100.00 to support Music in the Park. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**
- Request from Jerry Cole to adjust water bill after leak discovered and repaired at 1189 Bailey Street. Current bill is 589.95. Discussion. One Time Leak Forgiveness Ordinance was created to handle extreme cases of significant water use due to a leak.
 - No indication of how leak was repaired
 - May need forgiveness in the future for a significant leak
 - Ordinance has never been applied to an outstanding balance near this amount
 - A request for a reasonable repayment plan would be considered**French moves, supported by Misner, to decline request for forgiveness of water bill under the One Time Leak Forgiveness Ordinance. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

BILLS LIST:

Scholten moves, supported by Misner, to approve payment of bills for the month of June in the amount of \$22,912.82. Ayes – Misner, Rankin, French, Bair, Scholten, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Misner moves, supported by French, to accept the Treasurer’s Report through June 7, 2018, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Been mowing grass
- Opened parks
- Turning on summer residences
- Price on new mower
- Spring Clean Up
- Sweeping streets
- Changed some meters

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Started painting hydrants
- Waiting on results of water exam

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Trailer Park Water Situation – Settlement Payment Received
- John Collier Blight Status/Commercial Use of Property
 - Health Dept and DEQ Contacted – No Violation Found
 - Opinion of Tim Figura regarding tarped cars on property to be made part of June 2018 Minutes.
 - 45 day period given to remedy blight situation has passed.
 - Reasonable number of cars permitted on property and only cars registered and insured in the name of a person residing at the home. Clerk directed to request that information and proceed as the Blight Ordinance dictates.
 - ZA Carland will send letter addressing commercial use of property in residentially zoned area – zoning violation.
- Handful of properties remain in blighted state after Spring Clean Up. Clerk directed to send Blight Violation Notifications.
- Bateman travel trailer has been removed.
- Academy Park Hours sign has been ordered.
- Mark Ott, MML, informed office they will not be making a payment to Mr. Ellis in spite of judgement as small claims court decisions cannot be appealed to district court.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Website Style Design reviewed.
- Lake Street Trail needs attention. Superintendent will take care of it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Excused.

STREETS: Will be attending Act 51 training.

PARKS: Trustee Misner met with a group of children at the park and talked to them about community and how decisions are made and taxes are used. Teachers liked the idea of having the students write letters to Trustee Misner regarding what improvements they would like to see at the park.

WATER: Flushing water lines soon; will be posted on website.

EQUIPMENT: Three bids received on new riding mower: Cub Cadet, Massey and John Deere. Discussion. John Deere has the best looking 48" deck. **Rankin moves, supported by French, to approve purchase of a John Deere 570 Riding Mower at a cost of \$4,850.00. Ayes – Misner, Rankin, French, Bair, Scholten, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**

Purchase of a multi-use tractor will also be necessary in the near future. Michigan CAT has been consulted and all features

considered = \$89,762.50. Financing options available. **TABLED TO JULY MEETING.**

PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING:

- Five permits have been issued to date.
- Fireworks people have lost interest due to slope of property.
- ZA Carland missed PC meeting due to late notice rescheduling.
- ZA Carland has been given three boxes of planning commission/zoning material from Township and Betsy Neiger.

Planning Commission Liaison Bair shares that Urban Agriculture Ordinance was reviewed; Traci Cruz to publish in local paper. Also, Geoffrey Miner still feels two meetings should have been paid when one closed and a work session opened last quarter.

OTHER BUSINESS: Treasurer requests permission to receive direct deposit payments from MDOT for Act 51 Stabilization Funds per their request. **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve receipt of payments from MDOT via direct deposit. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Heyn – Excused.**

Treasurer is researching payment receipt via credit card.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Nye
Village Clerk

Minutes Drafted: June 11, 2018

Minutes Approved: July 2, 2018