

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA  
1276 MICHIGAN AVENUE  
BENZONIA, MI 49616  
MONDAY, November 4, 2019

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT: Flynn  
COUNCIL: Heyn, Bair, Misner, French, Cook  
CLERK: Nye  
TREASURER: Flynn - Excused  
SUPERINTENDENT: Boman  
ASST SUPERINTENDENT: Cline  
ZONING ADMIN: Kirk  
VISITORS: Michelle Leines, Ian Neerken, Jessica Carland  
ABSENT: Rankin

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jessica Carland, Benzie Bus, distributes information sheet and gives an overview of the Benzie Bus Annual Report.

VACANT COUNCIL SEAT: Clerk notified via text of Scott Scholten's intention to resign council seat. Jeffrey Cook, Village resident, interested in filling vacated seat. French moves, supported by Heyn, to appoint Jeffrey Cook to the vacated partial term council seat ending in 2022 and as Motor Vehicle chair effective immediately. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent. Cook sworn in by Clerk.

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes October 2019

**French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes October 2019, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent. Cook – Abstains.**

10/09/2019 MDOT Meeting Notes

**French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the 10/09/2019 MDOT Meeting Notes, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent. Cook – Abstains.**

FLEIS & VANDENBRINK: Ian Neerken presents required actions for projects;

- **USDA Water Project Notice of Intent: Pat McGow, Bond Attorney, supplied Notice of Intent to bond up to 1.25 million dollars for water project; requires publication. Note - amount exceeds what is expected to be spent. French moves, supported by Misner, to approve and publish the USDA Water Project Notice of Intent to bond up to 1.25 million dollars as drafted by Bond Attorney, Pat McGow. Ayes – Heyn, Misner, French, Bair, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**
- **MDNR Passport Grant Pay Application – TC Concrete has submitted invoice for concrete project work. Neerken explains the invoice needs to be paid by the village then reimbursed by the grant from MDNR; expectation of reimbursement within 90 days. French moves, supported by Misner, to pay the invoice submitted by TC Concrete in the amount of \$142,211.65, splitting the amount between the general and water funds, with the expectation of reimbursement by the MDNR within 90 days. Ayes – Bair, French, Misner, Heyn, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

CLERK’S CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Benzie County Road Commission Annual Contract. Heyn moves, supported by French, to approve the annual Benzie County Road Commission Contract as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

BILLS LIST:

**Misner moves, supported by French, to approve payment of bills for the month of November in the amount of \$40,576.43. Ayes – French, Misner, Cook, Heyn, Bair, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

TREASURER’S REPORT:

**Heyn moves, supported by Misner, to accept the Treasurer’s Report through November 4, 2019, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Closed parks
- Mowing grass, mulching leaves
- Got plows and sander on trucks
- Needed to replace tower screen from power surge \$1500
- Read water meters
- Got winter sand in
- Need to talk to Beulah about water line

Discussion regarding water project. Decided plans need to be presented for approval signature from Beulah.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Worked directly with Superintendent
- Touched up painting on big truck

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

VILLAGE AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL ORDINANCE 2019-03: **Misner moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Village Agriculture and Animal Ordinance 2109-03 as presented. Ayes – Misner, Heyn, Cook, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent. Bair – Abstains. Clerk to publish.**

MASTER PLAN: **French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Master Plan as presented beginning the 63-day review process. Ayes – Heyn, Cook, French, Misner, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent. Bair – Abstains.**

2<sup>nd</sup> Master Plan Public Meeting will be held Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at the upper level of the Mills Community House. 6:00 p.m. open house – 6:30 presentation.

Memorandum – Monthly Zoning Summary submitted – to be included with meeting minutes. Received options from village attorney regarding ways to address blight violations. Discussion regarding 1089 Bailey Street. **French moves, supported by Misner, to move forward with Option #2 to address the blight violation at 1089 Bailey Street. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:

- Attended the 150<sup>th</sup> County celebration
- EDC is creating Business Resource Reference Sheet
- EDC entered into a MOS with Eclipse for broadband expansion
- Veteran's Day Event November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. at Veteran's Memorial
- Crystal Lake Watershed gave a presentation on Eurasian Watermilfoil and their efforts to stop its spread
- Hiring freeze at the County level until January 1<sup>st</sup>; allowing for change in retirement benefit

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Helen Dewey request regarding library monies. Requesting the taxes received for the library be disbursed directly to the library with respective villages referenced on check. Villages currently act as merely a pass through for funds. Clerk suggests village request a year end account from township of funds disbursed. **Misner moves, supported by French, to approve direct disbursement of library funds collected by the township to the library with a year end account of funds from township to village. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

Conflict of Interest Policy – required document for USDA loan. Village of Benzonia Conflict of Interest Policy presented for adoption. **Misner moves, supported by Heyn, to adopt the Village of Benzonia Conflict of Interest Policy as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

Consumers Power Resolution and Refund. An audit of lights within the village showed that lights that had been replaced with LED lights had been being charged at old light rates; refund of \$8,000+ due. Moving forward, resolutions address agreements regarding the two types of lights and will be in effect until all lights are replaced with LED lights. Resolutions read and discussed.

Consumer Energy Resolution 2019-01. **French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Consumer Energy Resolution 2019-01 as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

Consumer Energy Resolution 2019-02. **French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Consumer Energy Resolution 2019-02 as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Absent.**

PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING:

Openings on the Planning Commission filled by Joe Bishop and Desiree Olson.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

**Misner moves, supported by Heyn, to adjourn meeting at 7:24. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin - Absent.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Nye  
Village Clerk

Minutes Drafted: November 4, 2019