

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NOVEMBER MEETING  
OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA  
Monday, November 2, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT:	Flynn
COUNCIL:	Heyn, Bair, Cook, Misner, French
CLERK:	Cutler
TREASURER:	Flynn
SUPERINTENDENT:	Boman
ASST SUPERINTENDENT:	Cline
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Kirk
PUBLIC:	Rhonda Nye, County Commissioner
ABSENT:	Rankin – 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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**French moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin– Excused.**

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**French moves, supported by Misner, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin– Excused.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ACTION ITEMS:

1. USDA Draw #6 – Draw request Elmers \$152,417.24, Cole \$50,546.90 and Engineering \$21,877.06 for a total of \$224,841.20. **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve USDA Pay Draw #5. Ayes – French, Heyn, Misner, Bair, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
2. Bills List. The Clerk reported that a couple changes were made to the bills list to make it easier to read for the approval of bills for the month. **Heyn moves, supported by Frend, to approve payment of the bills for the month of November 2020 in the amount of \$99,161.48. Ayes –Misner, French, Heyn, Cook, Bair, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

3. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer reports that the North Street Escrow account was closed. And some fund from scrap sale have been received. **French moves, supported by Cook, to approve the Treasurer's Report to October 31, 2020, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
4. Re-Zoning Request: Discussion took place regarding a rezoning request to change zoning from R-1 to C-2 for a parcel located on South Street. **Misner moves, supported by Heyn, to approve the Re-Zoning Request as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
5. Burning Ordinance 2020-06: Discussion took place to repeal and replace the Outdoor Burning Ordinance. This will expand the current ordinance to allow small "open fire pits" in the Village. Max diameter no more than 3ft and shall not be within 25 ft of any structure or 50 ft from any structure on the neighboring property. **French moves, supported by Bair to remove and replace the Burning Ordinance with 2020-06 as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
6. Cell Tower Lease: Treasure reports that Unison from Marfa called regarding the cell tower lease. Discussion took place regarding the lease. **Council took no action.**
7. Garden Worker – Discussion took place regarding the upkeep of the flowerbeds. Dave Burns was suggested at \$38.50/per hr. for 4 hours per week. Misner suggested that the council reach out to Kevin Kohn, before making a decision. **No action was taken by the council.**

#### UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- Discussion took place regarding the fence at the park and when it would be fix. TC Concrete is aware of the issue and will be back to work on the fence when time allows for their schedule.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Village of Honor – Public Hearing to hear a request for variance by Homestretch to change to R-2 for three parcels. Letter presented.
- B. Letter from EGLE re: New Flood Insurance Rate maps for Benzie County – Zoning Administrator indicated that Village of Benzonia is now on the map, however no changes.
- C. Email regarding the Benzie Summit by the Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber will hold the Summit virtually by Zoom on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 7-8:30

p.m. The summit will include information regarding legislative advocacy, broadband initiative information, business retention and expansion programs. This program will also report on economic development, tourism, education, infrastructure, healthcare, affordable housing, workforce talent, childcare, transportation, law enforcement, and County government.

- D. Letter from EGLE re: General Plan Update Approval – The Village received a letter regarding the General Plan for the Village of Benzonia water system, prepared by Fleis & Vandenbrink. EGLE has reviewed the plan and concurs with the findings.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- Closed the parks
- Hauled leaves and brush
- Return of the big truck
- Sander has been placed in the Ford truck
- Shut down summer residents
- Working on mulching leaves
- Prepared extra water samples and submitted

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- Water license exam on Wednesday, November 4th

**COMMISSIONER REPORT:**

- County Commissioner Nye – Reports on County business, 2 DNR Grants have been submitted, Broadband Summit event coming up, FCC Maps are inaccurate and need to be updated. Undersheriff G. Hubers gave an update on voter safety. R. Hubers reported on the COVID after action review.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular November 2020 Minutes.

- Discussion took place regarding a Notice of Violation on 1089 Bailey Street. The Council will use the ordinance guidelines to work through the appeal process. The Council directed the Zoning Administrator to issue a Civil Infraction, and then wait for recommendation from the Council to proceed with a Municipal Civil Citation at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

Misner moves, supported by French, to adjourn meeting at 7:35 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maridee Cutler,  
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: November 9, 2020

APPROVED: December 7, 2020

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