

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

PRESENT:

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

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:

**Herryman moves, supported by Myers, to approve the agenda. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: None**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- **October 2, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - Myers moves, supported by Moss, to approve the October 2, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried. Absent: None**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Accept Zoning Ordinance – Kirk presented the updated zoning ordinance; this has been in review and rewrite since September 2022 so that the Village will meet the RRC program requirements. The Planning Commission and Zoning Administrator met on several occasions with the goal of meeting the RRC “Best Practices” for the re-write of the ordinance. After review of the drafted Zoning Ordinance the Planning Commission recommended adoption of the Village of Benzonia Zoning Ordinance. French moves supported by Hafter to adopt the revised Zoning Ordinance as noted in the minutes provided. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried. Absent: None.**

- **CDL License Expense** – In order for Superintendent Cole to receive his CDL License he needs to attend a one-week training course in Traverse City. The cost of the class is \$ 2,710.00. **Myers motions, supported by Moss to approve the cost of the training course in the amount of \$2,710.00. Roll Call: Moss, Hafer, Herryman, Myers, French, Giatti, Flynn. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: None.**
- **River Street Discussion** – Kelly Bolt with MDOT reached out about decertification of a small section of River Street where it is blocked, the piece is a segment about .10 miles long. After a lengthy discussion the Council tabled the discussion until the Council could get more information from MDOT about the decertification process and what that means to the Village.
- **Bills List** – **French moves, supported by Myers to approve payment of the bills for the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$325,740.77. Roll Call: Giatti, Moss, Hafer, Herryman, Myers, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: None.**
- **Treasurers Report** – **French Moves, supported by Myers to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Ayes: All Nays: None: Motion Carried. Absent: None.**

Treasurer asks for support to renew the CD's in the Local Street and Major Street funds. Interest is 4.75%. **Hafer moves, supported by French to renew the Local and Major Street CDs through April of 2024. Roll Call: Herryman, French, Moss, Hafer, Giatti, Myers, Flynn. Nays: None: Motion Carried. Absent: None.**

Treasurer asks the Council to think about a member becoming a check signer, we only have three individuals to sign checks, and it would be nice to have a fourth member.

#### UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- **Back Barn Progress** – Nearly completed, waiting on the garage door openers.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- CLCBA Thank you letter

#### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular November 6, 2023 meeting minutes

#### COMMISSIONER REPORT:

- **Renewal of Smart 911 Contract** – This is a 911 profile that residence can fill out about their household to give 1<sup>st</sup> responders valuable information in route to emergencies. Only about 800 profiles are currently set up, it is a nice, free program offered to county residence.
- **Headlee Reset** – County is looking to reset the millage from 1982 where it was set to roll back “indefinitely”, original millage was set a 5.29 mills, due to rollbacks each year, the millage is now at 3.34 mills. County is working on an

educational campaign for voters. Should the millage be reset 12 of the separate millages that exist will be absorbed by the reset.

- Landbank demolished two homes, and are able to do one more in Benzonia “mold house”, still need to work with County on the release of back water bills before they could continue.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

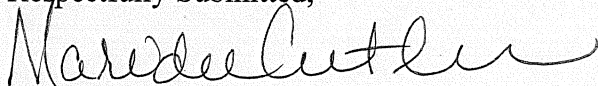
- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular November 6, 2023 meeting minutes
- Suggests a Press release for the Zoning Ordinance as many items have been updated.
- Need to get Development Guide on the Website.
- Did not receive Sparks Grant.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Application for Ice Rink, Kirk will talk with Ken Mlcek about.
- Myers – Approval for new Chairs at the Village. Will come back with quotes.

Moss moves, supported by Giatti to adjourn meeting at 7:25 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maridee Cutler,  
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: November 11, 2023

APPROVED: December 4, 2023