

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA
1276 MICHIGAN AVENUE
BENZONIA, MI 49616
Monday November 1, 2021

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT: Flynn

COUNCIL: Heyn, French, Hafer, Bair, Cook, Flynn, Misner via zoom

CLERK: Absent/Excused

TREASURER: Flynn

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Kirk via zoom

CALL TO ORDER: This regular meeting of the Benzonia Village Council was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by President Flynn.

- **ROLL CALL/ATTENDENCE TAKEN BY TREASURER**

Heyn, French, Hafer, Bair, Cook, Flynn, Misner and Kirk via zoom

- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** French moves to accept; second by Heyn
- Roll Call: Ayes All, Nays, None, Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 4, 2021 COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion to approve, by Misner, Second by French, Ayes all, Nays, None Motion carried.

Visitors: Mary O'Connor, Christopher Bertram, Joe Smith. Ken Mlcek Fleis and Vanenbrink

- **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mary O'Connor, speaking for the planning commission would like to form a sub committee to assist in beautification of the Village of Benzonia, with particular interest of landscaping, lighting, and benches along the new sidewalks along US 31. She requests that this sub committee be considered when monies for such items are available. Flynn shared that council person Bair is a liaison between the council and planning committee and she should be included in such conversations. O'Connor was thanked for her input and cooperation.
- **ACTION ITEMS:** CHRISTOPHER BERTRAM, UP RIVER PIZZA' is considering buying the Crystal Café (now a closed business in the Crystal Lake Plaza). He asks the councils approval of pursuing a liquor license for his new business there.

Council discussed; **Hafer motion to approve, French seconds, ayes all, nays none. Letter to be written giving Bertram permission to seek liquor license from State of Michigan.**

- Review of Annexation History
- Council discussed maps provided.
- Council does not approve of the way the annexation maps are drawn...F&V surveyor will review and offer corrections of village streets and boundaries.

CLFRF AWARD: Notification addresses that the Village of Benzonia qualified for nearly 53,000.00 of funds to be used for infrastructure improvements.

1188 Barber Street, Water line leak, Joe Smith

Discussion of the leak in the line feeding this residence which the line is over 200 foot from the home at 1188 Barber. Leak cannot be located without digging up the neighbor's property that the line crosses. Smith asks that the meter be moved closer to his home. Kerby excavating is to be contacted to have this request completed as soon as possible. Leak and water usage to be discussed after repairs are complete. Copy of current bill included.

French motions that this action be taken, Misner seconds, Roll call: Cook, Bair, Hafer, Misner, Heyn, Flynn Ayes all, Nays, none.

- **BILLS LIST:** Reviewed and accepted in the amount of 49,107.63

Heyn Motions to approve, Second by French, Roll Call: French, Hafer, Bair, Cook, Heyn, Flynn, Misner; Ayes all. Nays, None

- **TREASURERS REPORT:** Presented and reviewed. Letter of explanation of a bookkeeping mistake and correction also extended for council review.

French moves to approve, Cook seconds, All ayes, Nays, none.

- **UNFINISHED MATTERS:** ACADAMY PARK & TENNIS COURTS

On Friday October29, 2021 Flynn, Kirk, Mlcek did a walk through of the park, checking on what still needs to be finished. Mlcek reports that TC Concrete has requested payment for services in the amount of \$36,000.00. Mlcek proposed that the village hold 10 percent/ \$22,000.00 as retention for work yet to be finished. Payment of \$13,950.00to be paid. **Motion by French to make payment of \$13,950.00; second by Cook. Roll called: Heyn, French, Hafer, Bair, Cook, Flynn, Ayes all, Nays none, Misner abstained.**

- **CORRESPONDENCE:** BARB SKURDALL via email, shared her thoughts on the less than perfect work on completion and stripping of the tennis courts. Misner volunteered to respond.
- **SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:** Cline reports that mowing has been done, Water shut off and drained at Academy Park as well as flower beds along US 31 and at Post office parking lot.

Spill way on Severance Street completed.

20 newly planted trees donated by DTE with the assistance of Re-Leaf Michigan have been planted and mulched. Burlap wrap was placed on tree trunks to protect them.

Tree pots and excess mulch was removed from the basketball courts after planting was completed.

Benzonia Fire Department requested the use of village barricades for October 31,2021 Trunk or Treat. Barricades were delivered to them by Cline and Pritchard.

Obsolete Generator has been listed on Ranger Bid for \$10.500.

The Sterling plow truck has been repaired and is ready for the 21/22 winter season. Mechanic stressed that the truck is rusting badly and won't make it thru a second winter after this. Prices are being requested for replacement.

A natural gas leak was detected near the Water Tower on Barber Street. DTE came and repaired the leaking line.

CCRA is asking to mail out post cards to 20 percent of the village water customers regarding cross connections as is being required by EAGLE. Cost should be about \$5.00 per customer/card, approximately 60 x \$5.00.

- **COMMISSIONERS REPORT:**

Commissioner Nye reports that all is well with in the county. BS&A payroll program will be a welcome addition to the Benzie County Court house. Don't forget to vote on November 2, regarding Benzonia Townships new Fire Department.

- **PC/ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

Kirk reports that one permit was issued this past month for a fence. Also 2 residents requested permission for some tree removal on their properties.

The resale shop on US 31 has been addressed for having items sitting on the sidewalk in front of their store. They have been asked to refrain from doing this and keep it cleared.

1074 Barber, Angela Page has asked for assistance with neighbor Vickie Alvarez who keep placing items with in the 20-foot property easement, obstructing parking for Page.

Planning Commission met on October 21,2021 to review sign ordinance. Also looking into zoning requirements for food trucks and permit fees.

RRC annual report is being worked on by planning commission.

- **Final Comment:** None

ADJOURN: 7:35 P.M. Motion by French, seconded by all.

Respectfully,

Toni Flynn, Treasurer, Village of Benzonia

Approved: December 6, 2021