

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MAY MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA
Monday, May 1, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT:	Flynn
COUNCIL:	Hafer, Heyn, French, Herryman, Moss, Myers
CLERK:	Cutler
TREASURER:	Flynn
SUPERINTENDENT:	Pritchard
ASST SUPERINTENDENT:	
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Kirk
PUBLIC:	Rhonda Nye, County Commissioner; Kathleen Hibbard, Diane Tracy, Jules Snow, Jennifer Paavola, Brian Paavola, Chris Twigg, Scott Kubit, Kari King
ABSENT:	Heyn, Moss

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING:

Ken Mlcek reviewed the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Plan and explained to the public that the Village would like to address the following:

- Aged and undersized watermain replacement to improve capacity and reliability.
- Comply with EGLE rule of replacing lines with lead and copper.
- Add Surveillance at the Water Tank site, and to the existing well sites
- Add chemical improvements at Well No. 3 to maintain water quality

The Council also reviewed the proposed revenue bond funding and the impact of the proposed impact to the Village
(see attached Project Plan Fact Sheet for more information)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Hafer questioned what the potential fines could be if the project was not approved. Replacement of lead and copper must be completed by 2040. French indicated that we have been with Fleis & Vandenbrink for 20+ years and they are a good company. Lead and copper is not going away and needs to be replaced.

CLOSE PUBLIC MEETING:

Closed public meeting at 6:17 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

President Adds 4a) Republic Services Discussion 4b) Conditional Zoning 4c) Liquor Control Resolution. French moves, supported by Hafer, to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- April 3, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - **Herryman moves, supported by French, to approve the April 3, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Flynn – Reports the resignation of long-time council member Heyn, and thanks her for her invaluable service to the community.

Introduction of Barb Giatti, interested public member to vacated council seat, former Benzie Central Graduate, moved back to the community and would like to serve on the Council. **French moves supported by Hafer to fill the vacant Council seat with Giatti. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried.**

ACTION ITEMS:

- Resolution Adopting Final Project Planning – Council reviewed the resolution to Adopt the Final Project Plan for Water System Improvements and Designation an Authorized Project Representative. **French moves, supported by Myers to approve the Resolution for Final Project Planning as presented. Roll Call: Herryman, French, Hafer, Myers, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss**
- Wellhead Protection Plan – Ken Mlcek reviewed the Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) update. Total cost of project is \$14,200, however, a grant through EGLE would help with 50% of the cost. Fleis & Vandenbrink will apply for the grant at no cost, if the Village is awarded funding the Village will be responsible for 50% of the cost to update the plan. **Hafer moves, supported by French to approve the Proposal to Renew the Village of Benzonia Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) in the amount of \$14,200 with the understanding that if approved for the grant the cost would be \$7,100. Roll Call: Hafer, Herryman, Myers, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss**
- Senior Banner Email – Request from Benzie Central Schools to hang Senior Banners along the US 31 corridor, using the light posts. Council would need to rent a bucket truck to hang the banners, would need to get approval from Consumers to use the existing telephone poles, as the Village doesn't have light posts to use, we would also need some type of anchor to put affix the banners to. At this time, it would not be cost effective for the Village to take on the cost of this project.

- Republic Services – Discussion took place regarding the cost of the Republic Service Trash Pickup that the Village absorbs. Currently the Village absorbs the cost of the Trash Pickup for Village residents. The cost has gone up considerably in the past few years. Would like to add this to the tax bill for the residents and remove the burden from the Village. Village needs to do some homework on what can be added to the tax bill and what cannot be added to the tax bill. Table until next meeting.
- Conditional Zoning Agreement – Conditional Rezoning Agreement - for 7040 Severance Street. Kirk submits to the Council the recommendation by the Planning Commission to the Village Council for adoption for the request for conditional rezoning from C-1 to C-2 with conditions as presented by 7040 Severance Street Holdings, LLC with the contingency that the rehabilitation commence in the time frame recommendation of two years from the approval of the special land use permit, with the ability to request extension of the time frame. **French moves, supported by Myers to approved the recommendation by the Planning Commission to the Village Council for adoption for the request for conditional rezoning of 7040 Severance Street. Roll Call: Hafer, Herryman, Myers, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion carried. Absent: Moss.**
- Liquor Control Approval for On-Premises Tasting Room – Kirk reviews the Michigan Liquor Control Local Government Approval for On-Premises Tasting Room Permit. **Herryman moves, supported by Hafer to approve the resolution for the On-Premises Tasting Room Permit, submitted by Furnace Street Distillery. Roll Call: French, Myers, Herryman, Hafer, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss.**
- Bills List – **Myers moves, supported by Herryman to approve payment of the bills for the month of May 2023 in the amount of \$34,622.73. Roll Call: Herryman, French, Hafer, Myers, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss**
- Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer presented Treasurers report. **Hafer moves, supported by French to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer presented the Intelipay application for ACH processing for Village Water Bills to be paid on-line. This application shifts the processing fee to pay on-line to the consumer instead of the Village absorbing the cost. **French moves, supported by Myers to approve the signing of the application to Intelipay for ACH processing. Roll call: Myers, Hafer, Herryman, French, Flynn. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss**

UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- Plow Truck Update – Plow Truck is at dealers, waiting for need parts.
- Employee Policy – Looking for input on the Employee Policy. Tabled until next meeting. Special Meeting Scheduled for May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Written report submitted.
- Pritchard requests improvement of northeast corner of Traverse Ave and Barber Street to add a curb with landscaping this would help protect the main valves in this area. Received a verbal quote of \$4,000 from Kerby's Backhoe for the work plus mulch. **French moves, supported by Hafer to approve the verbal quote not to exceed \$4,000 from Kerby's Backhoe. Roll Call: Myers, French, Herryman, Hafer, Flynn. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Moss.**

COMMISSIONER REPORT:

County Commissioner Nye – Reports on County business,

- Approved a body scanner for Sheriff's Department
- Opioid Funds distribution for Drug Court Program
- 7 Parcels on Tax Foreclosure
- Township has ½ mile loop near dog park completed.
- AARPA Grant Money disbursement approval for Tower funding in Frankfort, Point Betsie Lighthouse Ribbon, Henry Road Entrance for new elementary school, and Outlet expansion for parking and bathrooms.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

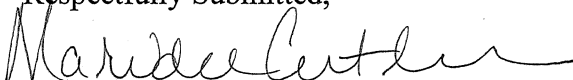
- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular May 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Hibbard indicated that the Financial Report from Benzonia Township was interesting.
- Crosswalks who takes care of those, they are disappearing? MDOT has a two-year cycle to repaint, can be requested with phone call.
- Dog Station for Disposal of Bags – Will talk about at the next Park Committee Meeting.

French moves, supported by Hafer to adjourn meeting at 7:50 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Maridee Cutler,
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: May 6, 2023

APPROVED: June 5, 2023