

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA  
Monday, June 5, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

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:

**President Adds 4a) L4029 4b) Resolution for Approval of Spark Grant Application. French moves, supported by Moss, to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- May 1, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - **French moves, supported by Herryman, to approve the May 1, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried.**
- May 8, 2023 Employee Review Committee Minutes - **Myers moves, supported by Herryman, to approve the May 8, 2023 Employee Review Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Stephens – Reports that the Village has Japanese Knotweed growing in several locations. Discussion took place about how to treat the invasive plant, MSU extension may have some ideas on collaboration ideas for treatment.

Nye – County Commissioner reported that another meeting conflicts with this evening's report. Left typed summary to read later in the meeting.

Hibbard – Has a new DPW Employee been hired yet?

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- New Mower Discussion – Council reviewed the two quotes for the purchase of a new zero turn mower. Myers asked about warranty terms, Herryman suggest annual service contract. **French moves, supported by Myers to approve the purchase of a Husqvarna Z460XS mower from Betsie Valley Sales in the amount of \$9,019.20 contingent upon warranty information. Roll Call: Moss, Herryman, Myers, French, Giatti, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Hafer**
- Short Term Rental Refund – Discussion took place regarding a refund for short term rental within the village. Died for lack of support.
- Jason Creech Water Bill Discussion – Request from Creech to give some relief for a \$5,224.09 water bill balance that began in May 2021. History indicates a neglect to stay current. Died for lack of support
- Wellhead Protection Program – Superintendent Pritchard is looking for members to serve on the Wellhead Protection committee. Needs three to four members. French will serve.
- L4029 2023 Tax Rate Request – Treasurer presented the L4029, looks for approval for the millage rates that will be set for the upcoming year. **Moss moves, supported by Giatti to approve the L4029, and authorize the Clerk, and President to sign. Roll Call: French, Myers, Herryman, Moss, Giatti, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion carried. Absent: Hafer.**
- Resolution for the Approval of the Sparks Grant – Kirk presents the resolution recommending the submission of a Sparks Grant Application to the Department of Natural Resources. The Village Council agrees to make a financial commitment to the project in the amount of \$15,000, and authorizes submission for \$995,991.00 for a total project cost of \$1,010,991.00. Public Comment: Hibbard attended the Public Workshop, and brainstorming session, thinks this is a good plan for the Village. **French moves, supported by Moss to approve a financial commitment of \$15,000 in matching funds. Roll Call: Moss, Giatti, Myers, French, Herryman, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Hafer.**

**Herryman moves, supported by Myers to authorize the approval of the resolution recommending the submission of the Sparks Grant Application to the Department of Natural Resources. Roll Call: Giatti, Myers, Moss, Herryman, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Hafer.**

- Bills List – **Myers moves, supported by French to approve payment of the bills for the month of June 2023 in the amount of \$168,908.65. Roll Call: Myers, French, Herryman, Giatti, Moss, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Absent: Hafer**
- Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer presented Treasurers report. **French moves, supported by Giatti to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer requests approval for the renewal of the CD's. **French moves, supported by Myers to approve the renewal of the CD's. Roll call: Myers, Giatti, Moss, Herryman, French, Flynn. Nays: None. Motion Carried. Absent: Hafer**

Treasurer request support from the council to sign the Liquor License Certification Compliance form and submit to the State of Michigan. **French moves, supported by Meyers to approve the signing of the Liquor License Certification Compliance form. Ayes: All, Nays: None, Motion Carried.**

UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- Plow Truck Update – Plow Truck is at dealers, waiting for need parts.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Council approves the CLCBA Sponsorship support.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Written report submitted.

COMMISSIONER REPORT:

- Clerk read Commissioners Report

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:


- Written report submitted and will be made part of the Regular June 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Stephens – Indicated that the knotweed is in the ally near post office and down street.
- Hibbard – Reported that County is in discussions regarding the headlee rollback.

French moves, supported by Herryman to adjourn meeting at 7:58 p.m. Ayes – All.  
Nays – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Maridee Cutler,  
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: June 10, 2023

APPROVED: July 3, 2023