

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AUGUST MEETING OF THE  
VILLAGE OF BENZONIA  
Monday, August 3, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT:	Flynn
COUNCIL:	Heyn, Bair, Cook, Misner, French
CLERK:	Nye
TREASURER:	Flynn
SUPERINTENDENT:	Boman
ASST SUPERINTENDENT:	Cline
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:	Kirk
PUBLIC:	Ken Mlcek, Chris Mekas, Gaylord Jowett, Steve Stephens, Jerry & Cheryl Andrews
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.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gaylord Jowett shares concerns regarding the MDOT/Elmers US 31 Project – on July 28<sup>th</sup> a forensic autopsy was interrupted when the water was shut off; costs incurred. Consideration not shown to businesses on South Street and appropriate signage was not in place. Notification of road closure should have been made, situation was poorly handled. President Flynn apologizes for any inconvenience experienced, unforeseen situations did occur but communication could have been better.

Chris Mekas shares dissatisfaction with the length of the water project; what should have taken 3-4 days has taken 3 weeks. Took issue with road access to his business; needed to be detour signage not just road closure signage. Also expressed that communication with businesses needed to be better.

Cheryl Andrews shares pictures of neighbor's yard with a blight issue. Yard not mowed all summer hiding various debris and the neighbor will not accept help. Weeds have gone to seed and impacted their yard negatively. Requesting Blight Ordinance be enforced. ZA shares that the Village is taking action.

Steve Stephans shares that the flower beds at the Post Office have been replanted and require maintenance now. Matter TABLED to September Meeting.  
Also requested that the tennis court fence adjacent to the Mills Community House be completed to stop people from walking through the new flower beds. Ken Mlcek responds that TC Concrete will get fence put back up.

**KEN MLCEK, FLEIS & VANDENBRINK, PROJECT UPDATE:**

- Watermain along US 31 complete
- Water tower out of service for painting
- Water meter installation in progress

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- 1) USDA 440-11 Estimate of Funds Needed, Expense Approval Form, Pay Application #2 – Contract #1 – all part of Pay Draw #3 for the USDA Project. **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve USDA Pay Draw #3 and all paperwork associated therewith. Ayes – Heyn, French, Misner, Bair, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 2) EGLE Water Sample Fine. **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve payment of EGLE Water Sample Fine upon receipt. Ayes – Misner, Heyn, French, Cook, Bair, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 3) Tree Removal. Linda Joy has requested dead tree in Village easement adjacent to her property be removed. Superintendent had received a quote from Kerby's for \$300.00 to remove the tree. **Heyn moves, supported by French, to accept the quote from Kerby's for tree removal in the amount of \$300.00. Ayes – Bair, Heyn, Cook, French, Misner, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 4) Bills List – **Heyn moves, supported by Misner, to approve payment of the bills for the month of August 2020 in the amount of 22,578.14 plus and additional 437.07 submitted by Steve Stephans for flowers. Ayes – Bair, Cook, French, Heyn, Misner, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 5) Treasurer's Report: **French moves, supported by Cook, to approve the Treasurer's Report to 08.03.2020, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 6) Minutes: July Regular Minutes. **Heyn moves, supported by Misner, to approve the July Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

- 7) Special Meeting Minutes 07.07.2020: **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes 07.07.2020, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- A. Gari Johnson – written account of local fire dept response to Village No Burning Ordinance.
- B. Paul Murphy – inquiry regarding purchase of Village property Lot E 132 ft of N 165 ft of Lot 10 Blk 13, if the Council would consider selling.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- Mowed some grass
- Worked on water project
- Drained water tank
- Normal routine

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

- Assisted with water project

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

**COMMISSIONER REPORT:**

- Several budget meetings
- Senior Resources reported that Gathering Place will remained closed until at least September 6<sup>th</sup>
- 9+ acre purchase at Railroad Point through a DNR grant and a 30% match from the Grand Traverse Land Conservancy
- Raphaeli v Oalkand County Supreme Court ruling will have an impact on the County
- Both the Jail and Commission on Aging Millage renewals passed

**FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Steve Stephans requests additional mulch for new beds.

Trustee Bair asks if the David Giles Plaque that is missing from along US 31 has been located. Ken Mlcek states that MDOT has been made aware it is missing, he will inquire again.

French moves, supported by Heyn, to adjourn meeting at 7:28 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Nye,  
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: August 8, 2020 APPROVED: September 14, 2020