

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF BENZONIA
Monday, September 14, 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:	Steve Stephens
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:

**Heyn moves, supported by French, to approve the Agenda as presented.
Ayes– All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

KEN MLCEK, FLEIS & VANDENBRINK, PROJECT UPDATE:

- Currently working on North Street.
- Permanent generator is going in.
- Temporary tower still being used; Verizon would like to add additional supports/welding before moving equipment back on water tower, this would require draining the water tower again. More information needed.

STEVE STEPHANS, VILLAGE BAUTIFICATION UPDATE:

- Shares that work is beginning on the Benzonia Museum gardens, a ‘garden of remembrance’ has been found on the hillside, asks where the Village boundaries are. A U-shaped wooden walkaway is being considered. Permission is given to remove invasive autumn olive plants.
- Mills Community House – revisiting fence extension. People continue to walk through the gardens, Stephans has erected temporary fencing.
- Striping of parking lot – Village responsible for handicap striping; requesting village hold off as the Mills Community House will be having the parking lot sealed. Proposes Mills Community House will stripe the parking lot if the Village will repair the fencing.

- Ornamental stone walkway at Post Office is being taken over with weeds, needs to be tended to. Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will address the issue.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) USDA Draw #4 – documents reviewed. **Misner moves, supported by Heyn, to approve USDA Pay Draw #4 and all paperwork associated therewith. Ayes – Heyn, French, Misner, Bair, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 2) Change Order No.3 Contract No.1 Elmer’s Crane & Dozer. Request for \$9,877.00 with supporting documents to be taken from contingency funds. **French moves, supported by Misner, to Change Order No.3 Contract No.1 Elmer’s Crane & Dozer in the amount of \$9,877.00. Ayes – Misner, French, Heyn, Bair, Cook, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 3) Clerk Resignation – two applications received. Email notification of resignation sent to Council August 27th; Clerk intends to facilitate a smooth transition to new Clerk. **Heyn moves, supported by French, to accept the Clerk’s resignation with regret, effective once the new Clerk is appointed and training/transition is accomplished. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 4) **French moves, supported by Cook, to give the Employee Committee authority to conduct interviews, hire, and establish salary for the new Clerk not to exceed current Clerk salary. Ayes – Bair, Heyn, French, Cook, Misner, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 5) Deering Tree Estimate. **Heyn moves, supported by French, to accept the estimate from Deering Tree Service in the amount of \$5,500.00 to remove dead trees in the Village easements. Ayes – Cook, Bair, Misner, French, Heyn, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 6) Elmer’s Road Repair Estimate. Superintendent compiled list of local streets in need of repair. **French moves, supported by Heyn, to accept the estimate from Elmer’s to repair the local streets identified in the amount of \$92,413.00. Ayes – Heyn, Cook, Bair, Misner, French, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 7) DTE Natural Gas Provider Change. Change would be at a cost savings to the Village. **Misner moves, supported by French, to approve the change of gas provider to DTE at a cost savings to the Village. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

- 8) Bills List – **Misner moves, supported by French, to approve payment of the bills for the month of September 2020 in the amount of 38,194.98. Ayes – Bair, Cook, French, Heyn, Misner, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 9) Treasurer’s Report: **French moves, supported by Misner, to approve the Treasurer’s Report to 09.14.2020, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**
- 10) Minutes: August Regular Minutes. **Heyn moves, supported by Misner, to approve the August Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.**

UNFINISHED MATTERS:

- David Giles Memorial Plaque has been located on the hillside.
- Notice of Blight – ZA Follow Up. Property was mowed but blighted items not removed, no response to notices. ZA directed to send Municipal Civil Infraction in the amount of \$50.00 with a two week timeframe to remedy blighted state without escalation of fines.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Gari Johnson – letter read by Clerk.
- B. Simple IRA Plan – Annual required notification of allowable participation.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Worked on water project
- Mowing a lot of grass
- Water tank back online
- Normal routine
- Water meters are done
- Got price on streets
- Got price on trees
- Well bad samples ok now
- Last three meters challenging
- Signs stained and back up by Shop n Save

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Still on track to get water license

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

COMMISSIONER REPORT:

- Letter of Understanding between the BOC and the Maples has been agreed to.
- Acquisition of 9+ acres at Railroad Point has closed.
- Friends of Point Betsie are talking with another engineering firm to consider different options for lighthouse repairs.
- Ad Hoc Committee #3 for Headlee Restoration efforts has met and Tax Allocation Board has been determined.
- Housing Block Grant Funds are available for home repairs for eligible residents.

FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Misner moves, supported by French, to adjourn meeting at 7:45 p.m. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Rankin – Excused.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Nye,
Village Clerk

DRAFTED: September 20, 2020 APPROVED: October 5, 2020