

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BENZONIA  
1276 MICHIGAN AVENUE  
BENZONIA, MI 49616  
MONDAY, July 2, 2018

PRESENT:

PRESIDENT: Flynn  
COUNCIL: Heyn, Bair, French, Rankin, Scholten  
CLERK: Nye  
TREASURER: Flynn  
SUPERINTENDENT: Boman  
ASST SUPERINTENDENT: Absent  
ZONING ADMIN: Absent  
VISITORS: Daniel Boxwell, Ken Mlcek  
ABSENT: Misner - 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

VISITORS: Ken Mlcek, Fleis & VandenBrink, addresses the Council regarding several current matters:

- Water Department: Fleis & VandenBrink offering to provide a free assessment of the feasibility of future water projects i.e.,
  - Painting the water tank
  - Replacement of Well #1
  - MDOT Streetscape Water Main ReplacementLarger project may be eligible for USDA Grant. Assessment would offer a rough idea of cost of project(s) v. potential grant monies. Discussion.  
**Rankin moves, supported by Heyn, to accept the offer for a free assessment of the feasibility of future water projects by Fleis & VandenBrink. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**
- MDOT 2020 Streetscape Project: Time to schedule a meeting with MDOT for grant consideration. Clerk will make contact with Patty O'Donnell at MDOT to arrange a meeting.
- DNR Passport Grant: State of Michigan representative met with President Flynn, Trustee Misner, Ken Mlcek and Clerk for a site review of proposed improvements at Academy Park. Group was informed that in kind donation of services/materials/volunteer time can be deducted from required cash match if grant is awarded.

Daniel Boxwell, distributes handout which outlines a summer tennis program he would like permission to conduct at Academy Park. Handout to be made part of the July Minutes. Discussion. **French moves, supported by Rankin, to approve the summer tennis program at Academy Park proposed by Daniel Boxwell with blessings and many thanks. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

#### MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes June 2018. **Heyn moves, supported by French, to approve the June 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

Special Meeting Minutes 06.14.2018. **Rankin moves, supported by French, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes 06.14.2018 as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

Special Meeting Minutes 06.28.2018. **French moves, supported by Rankin, to approve the Special Meeting Minutes 06.28.2018 as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE: Sourcewell information received.

#### FINANCIAL REPORTS:

##### BILLS LIST:

**Heyn moves, supported by French, to approve payment of bills for the month of July in the amount of \$14,003.02. Ayes – Heyn, Rankin, French, Bair, Scholten, Flynn. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

##### TREASURER'S REPORT:

**Scholten moves, supported by Heyn, to accept the Treasurer's Report through July 2, 2018, as presented. Ayes – All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

Treasurer is going to look into a bounced check fee policy for consideration.

#### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

- Been mowing grass
- Mowed edge of roads
- Fixed washouts
- Had to put new tire on 2009 truck – cut in old one
- New blades on brush hog mower
- Finished painting hydrants

- New sign on River Street
- New service to fruit stand and Walker Street

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Absent

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- John Collier Blight Status/Commercial Use of Property – Ticket issued. Discussion. Need to check with Zoning Administrator to see how to proceed if non-compliance continues. Municipal Civil Infraction Fees began June 28, 2018.
- Two Blight Violation letters sent.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Planning Commission Minutes addressed. Lengthy discussion with following talking points:
  - Two sets of minutes presented with two attendances taken for June 21 meeting totaling 1.5 hours. Clerk has asked Council whether to pay for one meeting or two. Precedent has been set in the past on this matter.
  - Shane Iverson cannot draft minutes for meetings he does not attend.
  - Draft meeting minutes need to be available/distributed within eight business days after meeting. Draft minutes are then approved/amended at the following meeting and approved minutes are sent to Clerk, Michelle Leines (for website), and put in the Planning Commission Book in the office. Currently, only draft minutes are being submitted.
  - Public Hearings are held by the Council, this can happen at the recommendation of the Planning Commission.
  - A Public Hearing should not have been held by the Planning Commission to amend an ordinance that had never been published or adopted and, therefore, not in effect.
  - Planning Commission, from this point on, needs to act on ordinances only as directed by the Council, once action is taken or ordinances are created they need to be submitted to the Council for review and consideration.
  - Since there is no longer a ‘rush’ to become RRC compliant, should Planning Commission meet quarterly with a focus on making sure the zoning ordinances are reviewed and acceptable.
  - The role Traci Cruz is playing on the Planning Commission has become blurred. She was hired to transcribe the zoning ordinances so we can get them on the website; she has taken on a consultant role without approval from the Council.
    - **TABLED TO AUGUST MEETING.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Discussed.

STREETS: No Report.

PARKS: Excused.

WATER: Discussed.

EQUIPMENT: Discussed and thank you.

PLANNING COMMISSION & ZONING: PC discussed, Zoning Administrator absent.

OTHER BUSINESS: Vigland Lane does not appear to be recorded in the public record. Possibly given name around 2000. **TABLED TO AUGUST MEETING.**

**Scholten moves, supported by French, to adjourn meeting at 8:05 p.m. Ayes –All. Nays – None. Motion Carried. Misner – Excused.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Nye  
Village Clerk

Minutes Drafted: July 8, 2018