

Village of Beulah
7228 Commercial Street, PO Box 326
Beulah, MI 49617
231-882-4451

The Village of Beulah met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by President Jeri VanDePerre at the Village Hall 7228 Commercial Street, Beulah, Michigan.

Present: Trustees Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre

Staff Present: Superintendent Cypert, Treasurer Lumm, Clerk Olney

Public Present: Commissioner Rhonda Nye, Vicki Carpenter, Jerry Crispell, Peggy A. Clarke, Debbie Smith, Vicki Carpenter, Mitch & Mary Szwed, Marsha & Keith Behm, Janice Cooney, Craig & Paula Harris, Patrick Carmack, Dale Rineer

New Council Member: President VanDePerre announced a new council member – Jerry Smith. Mr. Smith was sworn in by Clerk Olney and joined council at the table.

Conflict of Interest by any council member: None

Agenda: Motion by Downs, seconded by Browning, to approve the agenda as amended, adding Dock Switch to Parks & Rec and Leonard Drive Request. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre
Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Hook, seconded by Downs, to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Heniser, seconded by Loll, to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2023 special meeting as presented. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Bills:

Motion by Downs, seconded by Heniser, to approve payment of the bills for April 2023 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Communication to Council:

ZA Cypher reported that he has issued no Land Use permits in April; 36 telephone calls and responded with 15 emails; the main issue will be Eden Brook, they will apply for 14 condo units; he has been cleaning up some carry overs with additional REUs.

Commissioner Nye reported that the Board of Commissioners met today May 7-13 is Corrections Officer Week and May 15-21 is Police Officers week; Betsie Valley Trail Mgt Council gave a presentation regarding paving Beulah to Thompsonville and will be done in 3 phases; approved a Road Commission 5 year renewal millage for November 2023 ballot; received the Audit Presentation; Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency presented regarding poverty programs; \$20,000 of the Opioid funds was provided to Drug Court; working on an Infant in the workplace Policy; Veterans Memorial in the VA Park behind Watsons at 1 p.m. Memorial Day.

Treasurer's Report – Margaret Lumm reported that the Water Bond payment was made in April; ACT 51 money received along with revenue sharing of \$5,000. 36 of the 51 Short-Term Rentals have paid their registration fee for 2023; been really busy with audit information.

Motion by Downs, seconded by Loll, to accept the Treasurer's report for April 2023 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Trustee Smith: Water/Sewer – reported that this is a real learning experience; two main things 1) try to identify for EGLI the difference in the amount of clean water out and dirty water coming into treatment; and 2) consulting firms to defray the cost of this project, perhaps a property tax increase and millage.

President VanDePerre stated that we should receive the ACO next week; met with Baker Tilly regarding possible financing – she read the letter to those present and this letter will be placed on the Village website; Jeff Hopkins started back this week and is checking water/sewer hook ups.

Trustee Hook: Law/Finance – no report.

Trustee Browning: Buildings/Grounds – still working on getting the spoils removed, working on a bid from Honor Excavating and Bonney Brothers; next Planning Commission meeting is May 16 at 4 p.m. and they are working on their Bylaws.

Trustee Heniser: Parks & Recreation – reported that people are saying the fishing pier has too much sway in it; has a letter from dock holders to switch sides; attended the Betsie Valley Trail meeting; Trapp Park needs to have basketball nets put up – Jeff will see that they get put up – the court also needs to be remarked; the ramps should be repaired or removed; Trailer Park – Manager starts May 22, to be completed -- Mobi mat installed, swim buoys installed, door installed and all spots need to be marked.

Motion by Heniser, seconded by Browning, to authorize dock holders of N-7 and S-7 to switch sides, as per their agreement. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Trustee Loll: Streets & Sidewalks – reported she received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Harris requesting a special permit to park a trailer on Benzie Blvd. Motion by Loll, seconded by Smith, to approve the request of Craig and Paula Harris to park trailer on Benzie Blvd. from May 9 through October 31, 2023 as requested. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Letter received from Mary Szwed regarding naming of Leonard Drive; requests a vote to recognize the street as Leonard Drive not Leonard Court. Tabled to be sure there are no amendments to the current Plat – to be considered at the June 13, 2023 council meeting.

Clark Street curbing is flush with sidewalk causing rain to run down to Jacqueline Jem's. To be looked at by Kerby for repair (some other spots in the village as well).

Trustee Downs: Equipment – reported street sweeping starts tomorrow.

Superintendent Cypert: Jeff reported that the Beech Bath House is all set; the logging company has committed to July for the cutting at the sewer ponds; will sweep the streets tomorrow; lead and copper tests will be done this week; getting closer with the generator for the lift station; did the water testing last week.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Newsletter: President VanDePerre made a statement regarding the new process: This will be the last “print and mailed” issue; Vicki Carpenter has agreed to continue to create/write the newsletters, BUT they will all be digital copies posted to the Village website, CLCBA website and Beulah Boosters website. For those who wish to have them emailed, the requester will need to send a request to treasurer@villageofbeulah.net This email will be added directly to the address data base via copy and paste into the group. Hard copies will be provided at the library, like we already do. This will allow more pictures to be posted showing the fun activities happening in the village; save postage and issues of returned and resent newsletters; cutting down on office staff time; putting so many copies together in preparation of mailing.
Motion by Heniser, seconded by Loll, to approve the village newsletter going digital. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
2. CLCBA: Motion by Browning, seconded by Downs, to authorize payment to The Wayouts ~~contribution to the CLCBA~~ for Music in the Street in the amount of \$500.00 as requested. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
3. Beach Monitoring: Motion by Hook, seconded by Smith, to participate in the beach monitoring program with the Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay, in the amount of \$1,500.00. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
4. Garbage Bags: Motion by Hook, seconded by Smith, effective June 1, 2023, the cost of garbage bags purchased at the village office will be increased to \$33.00 for a pack of 10. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
5. Sesqui-Centennial: Motion by Hook, seconded by Loll, to adopt the Proclamation of the Lowering of Crystal Lake as presented. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

8:19 p.m. Public Input

Vicki Carpenter, 6932 Crystal Ave, stated that the Beulah Boosters are meeting May 24 in the Park; Frankfort Schools participated in Earth Day in Beulah last week.

Marsha Behm, 112 N Benzie Blvd, stated that there are no trash cans in the parks and there should be; she also asked that if she asks a question, when will she get an answer.

Paula Harris, Center Street, says thank you for the timely application for the water project.

Pat Carmack commented regarding the sewer problem – the ponds are in Benzonia, violations are too much sewer and in Benzonia; where would the plant be built and then you will need two more full time employees.

8:29 p.m. Public Input Closed

Next meeting: June 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

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Motion by Downs, seconded by Loll, to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Dawn Olney

Beulah Village Clerk