

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, January 10, 2024, 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, Smith and VanDePerre
Staff Present: Superintendent Cypert, Treasurer Lumm, Clerk Olney
Public Present: Commissioner Rhonda Nye, Vicki Carpenter, Mary Szwed, Marsha Behm

Conflict of Interest by any council member: None

Agenda: Motion by Downs, seconded by Smith, to approve the agenda as amended, adding New Business #9 Legal Agreement Pre-Approval and #10 Amendment to Gosling Czubak Service Order. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Loll, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 budget meeting as presented. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Downs, seconded by Heniser, to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular meeting as corrected on pages 2 and 3. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Bills:

Motion by Loll, seconded by Browning, to approve payment of the bills for December 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:

Commissioner Nye reported the Board of Commissioners met in an Organizational meeting last week and elected Bob Roelofs as Chair and Tim Markey as Vice Chair; meetings remain 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.; Asst Prosecutor Dave Egeler is planning to run for Probate Judge; the Conservation District has outgrown their office space in Beulah and looking to move.

ZA Cypher reported that no land use permits were issued for the month of December 2023 – year-to-date were seven; Eden Brook legal counsel has stated that they are withdrawing all requests to the village; junk storage issue was taken care of and the complainant was notified – junk storage and blight are two different things; two sewer hook ups were not properly done with the village; have received a request for a dimensional variance, attorney John Grogan representing the Cowart's – need to schedule a date and time for a ZBA hearing.

Motion by Heniser, seconded by Browning to schedule the ZBA hearing for Tuesday, February 13, 2024 with time to be determined, prior to the village regular meeting. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Mr. Cypher stated that he will be taking the Planning Commission surveys to begin the compilation; the next Planning Commission meeting is January 16, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – Margaret Lumm reported that funds have been deposited for ACT 51, Storm Water Grant, Revenue Sharing, ¼ly transfers; 4 people from 2023 that haven't paid the STR fee.

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

Committee Reports:

Trustee Smith: Water/Sewer – reported that he is reviewing residences that have a separate building (apartment or cottage) to see if they are being charged the proper water and sewer usage fees; also looking at homes that have a sump pump system hooked up to the village sewer system.

President VanDePerre also stated that we are moving ahead with the Rural Development application; she felt it was a good public hearing last night.

Trustee Hook: Law/Finance – reported that he is glad to answer questions that council may have on the revenue/expenditure reports the Treasurer sent; the library will be getting a facelift inside and will be closed down for two months.

Trustee Browning: Buildings/Grounds reported that the next Planning Commission meeting is January 16, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.; she has been trying to reach out to our insurance agent to talk about upgrades to this building and the possibility of a better rate, but does not get a response.

Trustee Heniser: Parks & Recreation – reported that the waterfront permit is still on hold; John Smendzuik is working on the overlay for us; RV reservations are coming in.

Trustee Loll: Streets & Sidewalks – reported that last month a business owner sent a letter regarding other business owners parking on the street rather than the parking lot – DeAnn sent a letter to all of the business in the village and asked that the owners and workers park in the parking lot behind the village office.

Trustee Downs: Equipment – reported that the DPW has been doing maintenance during the warm weather, now we have snow; we now have the new truck.

Superintendent Cypert: Jeff indicated that the preparation work for the new fence is nearly complete; EPS will be here February 5 – 9 working on the cameras for this building and February 12-19 for the RV Park; they are caught up on maintenance; will follow up on the generator.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Arbre Croche Cultural Resources LLC: Motion by Smith, seconded by Loll, to approve the Proposal for Section 106 Review Application Preparation for Proposed Waste Water Improvement Project in the amount of \$3,200, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
2. Resolution 2024-001: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Smith, to adopt Resolution 2024-001 to Approve the Addition of Michigan Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System as an Approved Investment Option as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
3. BakerTilly Engagement Letter: Motion by Browning, seconded by Loll, to approve the Engagement Letter Agreement with BakerTilly in the amount of \$39,000 as presented, authorizing the President to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
4. Investment Policy: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Downs, to approve the updated Investment Policy for the Village of Beulah as presented, authorizing the President to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
5. Spoils Removal Bids: Three bids were received: Bonney Brothers; Kerby's Backhoe; AJ's Excavating – Motion by Browning, seconded by Heniser, to accept the bid of Kerby's Backhoe Services, LLC in the amount of \$32,000 for removal of spoils as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
6. Conservation District Request: Motion by Smith, seconded by Loll, to approve the request of the Conservation District for a Tree project with Glen Lake Schools, to put a plan together and come back to this board for approval of the plan. (President VanDePerre to follow up with the Conservation District.) Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
9. Legal Agreement for Rural Development: Motion by Browning, seconded by Smith, to approve the legal agreement for Rural Development with Jeff Jocks (Sondee Racine firm), in a not to exceed amount of \$35,000. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
10. First Amendment to Service Order: Motion by Smith, seconded by Browning, to approve the First Amendment to Service Order between the Village of Beulah and Gosling Czubak Engineering Services as presented, authorizing the President to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
7. CLCBA – 2024 Winterfest Fireworks Permit: Motion by Downs, seconded by Loll, to approve the 2024 Fireworks Permit with Floyd Kaminski / Westshore Fireworks, Inc for the 2024 Winterfest, authorizing the President to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
8. CLCBA – 2024 Winterfest – Fantail Farms - \$500.00 request: Motion by Smith, seconded by Downs, to authorize \$500.00 for Fantail Farms for two horse drawn wagons during 2024 Winterfest. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

8:17 p.m. Public Input

Vicki Carpenter reported that the Christmas Trees will be coming down and will be taken to Misty Acres for their goats; Walking Valentine event in the Winterfest parade; Cottage Pros will start working on the ice rink in Benzonia; Support the Court is at \$24,000 for fund raising; stated the CLCBA would like to apply for a 2% Tribal Grant and asks the Village to apply for it.

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8:25 p.m. Public Input Closed

Next meeting: February 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Motion by Heniser, seconded by Browning, to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Dawn Olney
Beulah Village Clerk