

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, August 8, 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, Smith and VanDePerre

Staff Present: Superintendent Cypert, Treasurer Lumm, Clerk Olney

Public Present: Commissioner Rhonda Nye, Vicki Carpenter, Keith & Marsha Boehm, Janice Cooney, Jim Kilgus, Jerry Crispell, Lucy Augustson, Donald Jones, Shorlene Duggan, Peggy Clarke, Mary Szwed, Don & Carol Cervin, Rich & Carol Brader

Conflict of Interest by any council member: None

Agenda: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Downs, to approve the agenda as amended, adding New Business #2 Cintas Contract; #3 Road Commission Maintenance Contract. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Smith, seconded by Loll, to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2022 regular meeting as corrected on page 3. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Bills:

Motion by Downs, seconded by Browning, to approve payment of the bills for June and July 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 that Benzonia Twp changed the hours of their clean-up day for this Saturday to be 7 a.m. – 10 a.m.; The township has hired a grant writer; Centra Wellness Board meeting; Area 31 sewer feasibility study meetings; Health Department; Betsie River ZBA; Land Bank Authority; Unpaid Property Tax online auction is August 25 and Benzie County has 7 parcels up for auction; village of Benzonia have some streets in need of repair. Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy); Frankfort Area Land Trust has two low-income homes nearing completion; 23-24 DRAFT Budget is now online.

ZA Cypher reported – excused

Treasurer's Report – Margaret Lumm reported that the Equipment Fund has been corrected; 1/4ly transfers have also been completed.

Motion by Hook, seconded by Downs, to accept the Treasurer's report for June 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 we are just waiting for information regarding the ACO and then we will be really busy.

Trustee Hook: Law/Finance – reported that EGLE was invited to do a walk about regarding the NPS to cut down on stormwater run-off. Gosling is going back to the drawing board with hopes to go to bid in late Fall or early Winter with a start of Spring 2024. Our 2022 Audit is completed.

Motion by Hook, seconded by Downs, to approve the following budget amendments:

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Increase 101-101-702.000 | \$172.00   |
| Increase 101-966-986.641 | \$7,196.00 |
| Increase 101-966-986.203 | \$3,556.00 |

Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Trustee Browning: Buildings/Grounds – reported the Bonney Bros cannot remove the spoils this year, due to not having enough truck drivers; Planning Commission will meet August 15 at 4 p.m.; perhaps we can incorporate the striping of the parking lot.

Trustee Heniser: Parks & Recreation – stated that he recommends cancelling the Mi-Pest contract – received a bill and we don't even know if the work was done; the RV manager had sprayed before the date that they state they provided the service.

Motion by Heniser, seconded by Browning, to cancel the Mi-Pest contract for the future. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Attended the Betsie Valley Trail meeting and stated that they were impressed with how prepared you were on the walk around – regarding the NPS grant. We may want to consider weekly opportunity to rent campground sites; Basketball court is being used a lot this year; the launch ramp seems to be busier this year as well; Cottage Pros is still scheduled for repairs to the fishing dock; regarding the fishing docks, the benches were removed again, but not put in the water; have moved the RV park reservation timeline to October, to allow the attorney to review Rules and Regulations.

Trustee Loll: Streets & Sidewalks – reported she has received a response regarding relocation of the street light; final cost will be \$3,392.00 which we need to pay first from invoice then by Labor Day it will be done. She spoke briefly regarding Title VI – annual Certification due to Non-Compliance (of which the Village was not in compliance).

Trustee Downs: Equipment – reported that the front loader had a gas leak which is not fixed.

Superintendent Cypert: Jeff indicated that the logging has started; will start trimming trees on roads before winter begins so as not to damage trucks; we have taken a load to the transfer station with scrap metal.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Consumers Energy Franchise Renewal Ordinance: Motion by Hook, seconded by Downs, to adopt Ordinance 01-2023 Consumers Energy Franchise Agreement as presented, for 30 years, authorizing the

President to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre  
Nays: None Motion carried.

2. Cintas: Motion by Smith, seconded by Heniser, to buy out the contract with Cintas in the amount of \$3,086.54 and discontinue service with them. Roll call. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.
3. Benzie County Road Commission Contract: Contract will be sent to legal counsel for review and approval prior to council action.

8:00 p.m. Public Input

Carol Cervin, Lot 6, stated that she was paid in full before Labor Day, contrary to what Trustee Heniser stated. Vicki Carpenter, 6923 Crystal Ave, stated that Thursday is the last concert in the street; Crystal Lake Team Marathon Saturday August 12; Labor Day Cold Creek Bridge Walk.

Peggy Clarke, 10 S Center, spoke regarding the dead-end on Lake Street not being cleaned up since winter; barricade is broke and has been laying there going on 3 years.

Kira Duvernoy, stated that the Democratic Party would like to have one person speak during Public Comment and that being Jim Dulzo, chair of the Democratic Party, spoke regarding an unfortunate situation at the sidewalk sale where they were asked to leave during to the political information, they had on Village property. President VanDePerre made a statement that she spoke with Barry Hahn today. Barry requested to register voters only, verified to Village Clerk that it was non-partisan and nothing to do with the Democratic Party. The group was given two options when approached by myself, one to remove all the swag and party related items and continue to register voters per their requests or leave the premise. The group choose to pack up and leave. She spoke with the Village Attorney and the Zoning Administrator regarding this; we will be getting a policy drawn up to follow in the future.

Donald Jones, Lot 18, asked for clarification that the lot deposit for next year will be due after Labor Day. Trustee Heniser responded yes.

DeAnn Loll asked for a copy of the Sidewalk Ordinance and Campaign Finance Section 57 that President VanDePerre referred to.

Barry Hahn stated that he thought e had things set up; finds it hard to believe anyone lied, we promote registering to vote.

8:14 p.m. Public Input Closed

Next meeting: September 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Heniser, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Ayes: Browning, Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, Smith and VanDePerre Nays: None Motion carried.

Dawn Olney  
Beulah Village Clerk