

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, December 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by President Jeri VanDePerre at the Village Hall 7228 Commercial Street, Beulah, Michigan.

Present: Trustees Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre  
Excused: Trustees Browning and Smith  
Staff Present: Superintendent Cypert, Treasurer Lumm, Clerk Olney  
Public Present: Vicki Carpenter, Kirk Smith, Keith Behm, Marsha Behm, Mary Szwed and Commissioner Rhonda Nye

Conflict of Interest by any council member: None

Agenda: Motion by Loll, seconded by Downs, to approve the agenda as amended, adding New Business #6 Planning Commission Per Diem and #7 RV Park Rules for 2024. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion by Downs, seconded by Heniser, to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023 regular meeting as corrected. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.

Bills:

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

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Communication to Council:

Commissioner Nye reported from the County Commissioner meeting this morning – Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Management, honored two CERT volunteers; the County Campus expansion is on schedule; NMC Sheriff School; hired 3 Part Time Bailiffs; 24/7 road patrol will be coming in May 2024; new county web address is BenzieCo.gov; State Rep Betsy Coffia gave an update from Lansing; Headlee Override – will need ½ of the townships to agree before moving forward.

ZA Cypher excused

Treasurer's Report – Margaret Lumm reported that Act 51 funds have been received and we sold the truck, so those funds were placed in Equipment Replacement.

Trustee Hook asks that funds 247, 445 and 496 be removed from the Treasurer's Report since those funds are not being used.

Margaret also reported that the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program will be ending March of 2024 due to lack of funding; she urges everyone to write our state legislators to support SB 549-552.

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

**Committee Reports:**

Trustee Smith (excused): Water/Sewer – President VanDePerre reported that there is not much of an update regarding ACO at this time; we are also working with Rural Development and on January 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a Public Hearing at the Mills Community House 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, to explain the funding and millages. Will be advertised in the Record Patriot, placed on our website [www.villageofbeulah.net](http://www.villageofbeulah.net) and Code RED.

Trustee Hook: Law/Finance – reported that he is seeking additional information regarding a grant for EV fast charging stations. Recommends to put some cash into CDs for a better interest rate: \$250,000 from Major Streets and \$250,000 from General Fund, with a 4.65% rate for six months.

Motion by Hook, seconded by Heniser, to authorize \$250,000 from Major Streets and \$250,000 from General Fund to invest with State Savings Bank or Michigan Class as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.

Trustee Browning (excused): Buildings/Grounds – No report

Trustee Heniser: Parks & Recreation – reported that the new RV Park Rules are ready and gave a brief update on some of the changes: timeline to decide if they want to come in for 2024, all campground moorings are on hold with 30-days to resubmit, so no overnight boats; thank you to the DPW for placing the pole for cameras; all docks spaces have been marked for next year; repaired the launch ramp; the RV Manager is cleared to come back next year.

Trustee Loll: Streets & Sidewalks – reported that the Implementation Plan is now complete, on the website, and has been sent to the state; she has prepared a checklist to follow ~~what the information is used~~ items to be completed each year.

Trustee Downs: Equipment – reported the truck has been sold for \$13,000.

Superintendent Cypert: Jeff indicated all is well and everything working; it has helped having no snow.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Fence contract with Crystal View Orchards: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Loll, to approve the contract with Crystal View Orchards in the amount of \$75,627.70 for fencing at the sewer ponds as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
2. Contract with Kerby's Backhoe: No contract needed due to amount.

3. DHM Services – Sewer Generator: Motion by Loll, seconded by Downs, to accept the DMH Services bid in the amount of \$20,797.00. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
4. Amended 2023 Budget: Motion by Hook, seconded by Heniser, to adopt the Year-End Amendments to the 2023 Beulah Village Budget as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
5. Resolution Proposing Amended Water & Sewer Rates to be effective 1/1/2024: Motion by Hook, seconded by Heniser, to adopt resolution 2023-005 Water and Sewer Rate Increases effective January 1, 2024 (first billing April 2023) as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
6. Planning Commission Per Diem: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Loll, to set the per diem rate for Planning Commission at \$25.00 per meeting attended, effective December 2022, when the Planning Commission was formed. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
7. RV Park Rules for 2024: Motion by Heniser, seconded by Downs, to approve the RV Park Rules for 2024 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.

Correspondence:

1. 2024 Council Meeting Dates: Motion by Loll, seconded by Heniser, to adopt the 2024 meeting dates as amended (January 9 change to January 10, 2024. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
2. Benzie Sunrise Rotary: Request for Trailhead Use: Motion by Hook, seconded by Loll, to make the Trailhead Building available to the Benzie Sunrise Rotary Club on June 1, 2023 to host ~~they~~ the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Benzie Tour, including the connection of a hose outside the building. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
3. Benzie Chamber Request: Literature at Trailhead Use: Motion by Loll, seconded by Heniser, to authorize the Benzie Chamber to place literature in the Trailhead Building with the following specifications: 1) for the period January through December 2024; 2) Coordinate move in with Jeff Cypert, Superintendent; and 3) All items need to be removed when leaving for new space. Roll call. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.
4. Richard Brauer: Dogman3 Update – information only
5. Email received from Robert Riddell regarding local business owners and employees parking on the street. Discussion stated that the CLCBA does mention this in the newsletters. Trustee Loll will do a letter to send to the businesses.

8:36 p.m. Public Input

Vicki Carpenter says thank you to the village crew – downtown is beautiful; Christmas Magic was December 9 and turned out very nice; December 21 she will be hosting a retirement party for Nancy (Postmaster) for her retirement – Trailhead Building 11 am – 2 pm; working on Winter Fest planning and the logistics for the

fireworks in case there is not snow; CodeRED street parking notice is very good; other organizations have been putting stuff in the Trailhead Building too (most likely without permission).  
8:40 p.m. Public Input Closed

Next:

Public Hearing: January 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Mills Community House regarding the Administrative Consent Order for the Sewer Project

Regular Meeting: January 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Village Hall

Motion by Downs, seconded by Heniser, to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Ayes: Downs, Heniser, Hook, Loll, and VanDePerre Nays: None Exc: Browning and Smith Motion carried.

Dawn Olney  
Beulah Village Clerk