

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING
and PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES – April 12, 2021**

The public hearing was called to order by President Jon Evenson at 6:00 p.m. This public hearing was properly published and posted as required by State Statutes.

Present: Jon Evenson, Tammy Steward, Sue Carlson, Patty Gapen, Mark Honkomp, and Dan Muleski. Mike Guillemot is excused. Also present: 3 guests

Meeting Notice Certification: This April 12, 2021 Public Hearing and all other meetings of the Board and/or it's committees are open to the public in compliance with Wisconsin State Statutes. Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Biron Municipal Center, Village website, and the news media in an attempt to make the residents of the Village of Biron aware of the location, date, time, and agenda of the meeting.

Proposed Amendment to Chapter 17 Zoning, Sec. 17.1.24 A-1 Agricultural District: The Ordinance committee recommends adding "agricultural tourism activity (as defined by Wis. Stat. Sec. 895.52(1)(ag))" to existing Ordinance 17.1.24 A-1. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to recommend adoption to the Board. M.C.

Public Comment and Discussion: Jamie Biegel, Rooted In Red, spoke in favor of the Ordinance amendment. She stated she would like to expand their Rooted In Red business to include farm tours, farm to fork dining experiences, and family events. They would be using part of one of their warehouses for these events. The amendment to the Ordinance would allow the business expansion in its current location within the Village boundaries.

Adjourn: Motion Honkomp, second Steward to close the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. M.C.

The April 12, 2021 Regular Village Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jon Evenson at the Biron Municipal Center. The meeting was properly posted according to Wisconsin State Statutes.

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office to those re-elected April 6.

Minutes: Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve minutes of the March 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as printed. M.C. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve minutes of the March 29, 2021 Special Board Meeting as printed. M.C.

Public Comment: None

Finance & Budget Committee: Chairperson Patty Gapen reporting. The committee met April 7. All bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and Utility departments were in order. Motion Honkomp, second Steward to approve all bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and Utility departments. M.C.

Resolution 21-03 Authorizing the Redemption of the Village's Taxable General Obligation Promissory Notes, Series 2014A, dated July 1, 2014 was reviewed. The Notes will be called for

redemption on May 17, 2021. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve Resolution 21-03. M.C., with all trustees voting aye. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve final re-funding of bank notes with assistance from Ehlers, with a debt service schedule beginning 4/15/2021 and ending 12/31/2030. M.C.

Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve to approve the committee report. M.C.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee are: Receipts for March 2021: \$41,019.33. Expenses: \$126,182.82. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 23078-23149 with 7 auto pays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of March bills paid from the General Fund was included for the Board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$908,754.09. Utilities Checking: \$204,8788.03. Money Market \$279,052.22. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4526-4539. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$24,487.57. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for the Board to review. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Treasurer's report. M.C.

Biron Volunteer Fire Department Report: Progress on the new fire engine is progressing rapidly with anticipated delivery this summer. There were five medical and two fire calls in March. Current active roster is at seventeen. LED fluorescent lights were installed throughout the station, along with a new vehicle exhaust system. There will be a controlled burn of a structure on Elk and North Biron Drive on April 24. Chief Kerkman reported formation of a Biron Firefighters Association. All money raised through this Association will be used to make donations within the community. There is no tie-in to Village funds. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve the Fire Department report. M.C.

Personnel Committee Report: Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. Honkomp reported the committee needs to meet to discuss wages and to conduct performance reviews. Motion Steward, second Carlson to approve the Personnel Committee report. M.C.

Legislative, Ordinance & Zoning Committee Report: Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to adopt Ordinance 17.24 A-1 as amended. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to adopt Ordinance 13.06 Collection of Utility Bills in Arrears as amended. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. The ordinance will be sent to the Village Attorney for modification and the committee will review it at a future meeting. The committee recommends hiring Josh Volz as building inspector upon retirement of Lorelei Fuehrer. The committee will be reviewing the job description, duties, and pay. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

Public Works Committee Report: Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. The crew has begun cleaning the Eagle Road storm sewer. Demolition of two structures on Sunset Park property will begin this week. The 32nd Street lift station cabinet work is tentatively scheduled this month. Zach is looking into covering the mill lift station work via American Rescue Plan Act grant funding. The Board needs to decide where grant funds will be spent. Wood County sent information on the 50-50 road program. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

Public Property, Safety & Recreation Committee Report: Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. Muleski reported on Resolution 21-04 Amending Chapter 11 of the Village of Biron Code of Ordinances Slow-No-Wake-Area on the Wisconsin River in the Village of Biron. It will take several months before the ordinance can be adopted due to DNR posting and approval regulations. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Public Property Committee report. M.C.

Water Utility Committee Report: Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. Disconnect notices and deferred payment agreements were mailed to thirteen residents. Distribution pump 2 at the well had high current draw so the controller was shutting it down. Replaced bearings, re-machined shaft and changed controller settings. Water tower inspection will be May 6, with valve replacement taking place at the same time. A quote for well 2 inspection came in around \$14,500 as anticipated. The crew will demo the concrete base in order to outfit the will with a vent that meets regulation. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Water Utility Committee report. M.C.

Waste Water Commission Report: *Note: The Waste Water Treatment Plant is operated & staffed by the City of Wisconsin Rapids. One member of the Village of Biron Board of Trustees is an acting member of the Commission.* Minutes of the March 3, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Steward reported she did not vote in the affirmative on the proposed draft of Agreement for Sewerage Services between the City of Wisconsin Rapids and the Village of Biron and the minutes did not reflect her vote. She asked for the correction to be made at the April 7 Commission meeting. She stated the Commission had not seen the new Agreement nor had input on it prior to voting on it March 3 nor had they seen the letter sent to the Village terminating the original agreement. She also stated the Commission has never discussed terminating the Agreement with the Village. Motion Honkomp, second Carlson to retain Axley Brynson, LLP to represent the Village in negotiating a new Agreement with the City. M.C. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Waste Water Committee Report. M.C.

Clerk's Report: Arndt reported a 21.56% turnout at the April 6 election. The election went smoothly and all balanced at the end of the night. This is the last election in 2021. Open Book will be April 21 and Board of Review April 28. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Clerk's report. M.C.

President's Report: Plan Commission will meet April 19 regarding a zoning change request for construction of a Dollar General. Annual meeting will be April 20. Trustees who may want a different committee assignment should contact the President or Clerk prior to the meeting. Evenson stated he had contact with the Department of Transportation regarding a parcel for sale on 32nd Street North and Plover Road for right of way purposes. Discussion held on potential business interest in the Business Park. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the President's report. M.C.

Adjourn: Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. M.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Jon T. Evenson, President