

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – May 9, 2022**

The May 9, 2022 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.

PRESENT: Jon Evenson, Tammy Steward, Jamie Biegel, Patty Gapen, Mike Guillemot, Dan Muleski, Mark Honkomp. Also present: Clerk Anne Arndt, Treasurer Pam Witt, Public Works Supervisor Zach Trzebiatowski, and five guests.

MINUTES: Motion Honkomp, second Steward to approve minutes of the April 11, 2022 Regular Board Meeting as printed. Motion carried. Motion Honkomp, second Biegel to approve minutes of the April 19, 2022 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mike Speich share a letter he received from the Department of Transportation regarding proposed reconstruction of the Highway 54 corridor. He asked if the Village had interest in constructing a multi-use trail on one side of Highway 54 as the timing would be right. A majority of the section of Highway 54 is located in the Town of Grand Rapids. Jeff Penzkover introduced himself as the newly appointed Wood County Supervisor representing District 11.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: Chairperson Patty Gapen reporting. All bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and utility departments are in order. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve all bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and utility departments and to approve the Finance Committee report. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee: Receipts for April: \$87,530.79. Expenses: \$212,562.63. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 23958-24034 with seven autopays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of April bills paid from the General Fund was included for review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$1,034,964.52. Utilities Checking: \$185,125.78. Money Market \$316,821.99. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4718-4723. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$34,032.00. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for review. Motion Honkomp, second Guillemot to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Dave Kerkman reporting. The department completed driver operator training with a concentration on driving all apparatus, including the UTV. One medical and two fire calls were made in April. DOT checks and annual pump testing was completed. Engine 2 has a leaking valve and emergency lights that need replacement. Semi-annual fire inspections and annual hose testing will begin soon. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve the Volunteer Fire Department report. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. Motion Honkomp, second Steward to convene into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m., pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c), considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Topics for discussion: review and discuss evaluation of the Public Works Director and to consider the utility clerk position. Motion Honkomp, second Steward to convene in Closed Session. Upon Roll Call

vote: Evenson, yes; Biegel, yes; Gapen, yes; Guillemot, yes; Honkomp, yes; Muleski, yes; Steward, yes. Motion carried. Motion Honkomp, second Guillemot to reconvene in Open Session at 8:55 p.m. Upon voice vote, motion carried. No action taken at this time.

LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. We received a request to add Huffman Road as a UTV route. Grand Rapids will be opening most of its roads to UTV's and riders would like to use Huffman Road to get to the river and Anchor Bay. There has been a request for a solar installation not located on a roof. Our ordinance does not address this issue and some wording will be added to our ordinance. The committee discussed possibilities of sheds on outlots. We can allow it but the owner needs approval from CWPCo. The committee clarified location and height of fence for a property owner. A resident whose property borders Sunset Point Park suggested a small ornamental iron or vinyl fence between the properties would provide some privacy and help block blowing leaves. The committee reviewed the final section of Chapter 17 Zoning with Attorney Abts. Motion Evenson, second Gapen to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. The garage roof needs to be re-tarred. Zach was asked to provide an estimate for the roof repair. The furnace in the garage is currently vented out the roof, causing that area to leak. It needs to be vented out the wall. Flygt manufactures our lift station pumps. The pumps need to be inspected annually. Flygt has offered a three-year maintenance agreement with a 15% discount on parts. Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve a three-year maintenance agreement that includes an annual inspection price of \$1,500.00 and a 15% discount on parts. Motion carried. Zach presented information regarding a contract with Waste Management for garbage & recycling services. Discussion will continue. Residents are encouraged to use the Village compost site located behind the Garage on Williams Street. A skid steer plus attachments would replace older equipment and increase efficiency for projects that the crew needs to complete. The attachments include 72" brushcat, 74" bucket, pallet forks, asphalt planer. This equipment would completely replace 8N (which is a safety liability). It would replace certain functions of the John Deere backhoe, increase efficiency for patching practices, can be used to address buckthorn at the municipal center, grading for public spaces/dressing up green spaces, handling deliveries, assist in heavy lifting operations (plow blade exchange, etc). Estimated cost at this time is \$107,000.00. It was suggested bids be obtained for this item. Wastewater rates have not been increased in three years. Motion Steward, second Evenson to increase wastewater rates five percent, effective July 2022. Motion carried, with one no vote. Three fountains were donated to the Village a few years ago. Installation cost will be researched. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to accept the Public Works Committee report. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. There are currently thirteen vacant slips. The committee would like the crew to secure a cable with a sign indicating the slip is for rent, making the slip unavailable for people to use unless they are renting it. The slow no wake application has been signed by CWPCo and submitted to the DNR. Mike will call the DNR representative to verify they received our information. MSC invoiced us for the installation of our slips that included a \$612.00 fuel surcharge. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to pay the additional surcharge. Motion carried. Zach was asked to create a map indicating areas a memorial bench could be placed. We currently have a bench that has storm damage that can be replaced with a memorial bench. Sunset Point Park is another area that could have memorial benches. The committee would like to guarantee the bench for five years and include a \$200 insurance fee to the bench price. The order form will be added to the Village website indicating pricing for the bench is market dependent. The committee will approve the customer's order prior to ordering. The Village crew would install the bench. Attorney Abts reviewed

the cell tower contract. The Village is unable to terminate the contract. Our cell tower rental fee is consistent with other municipalities. Per our current agreement the rental fee will increase 10% every five years. The Wisconsin Rapids City Band is requesting concert sponsorship. Motion Guillemot, second Evenson to sponsor the August 2, 2022 concert for \$250.00, which includes a half page ad in the concert program. Motion carried. Motion Muleski, second Steward, to accept the Public Property Committee report. Motion carried.

WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Jamie Biegel reporting. At the February 21, 2022 Board meeting a motion was made, seconded, and carried to request a 3% simplified rate case to enhance future earnings per the 2022 budget. In March 2022 the Public Service Commission increased the simplified rate case from 3% to 4.5%. Motion Biegel, second Honkomp to approve the 4.5 simplified rate increase request. Motion carried. Motion Evenson, second Guillemot to accept the Water Utility Committee report. Motion carried.

WASTEWATER COMMISSION REPORT: *Note: The Wastewater 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.* No report. Minutes from the Commission's April meeting are not yet available on the City's website.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk Anne Arndt reporting. The first State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund project and expenditure report was submitted April 18 to the U.S. Treasury. Trustees Steward and Gapen and the Clerk attended Board of Review training on April 21. Open Book will be June 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., by phone only, with the Assessor. Board of Review will be June 16 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Center. A review of contributions reported to the Central States Health and Welfare Fund will be conducted in May, per the Village's participation agreement. The purpose of the audit is to identify all eligible plan participants, verify that contributions were properly reported for all eligible plan participants, and verify compliance with the Trust Agreement and Fund rules. Joint Review Board is scheduled for June 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Hall in Pittsville. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to accept the Clerk's report. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Haza Mechanical will be building tanks for ND Paper and has requested the use of Kahoun Road to deliver them to the mill.

ADJOURN: Motion Muleski, second Gapen to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Jon T. Evenson, President

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