

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – November 9, 2020**

The November 9, 2020 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, Sue Carlson, Patty Gapen, Mark Honkomp, Mike Guillemot, and Dan Muleski. Also present: 13 guests

**MINUTES:** Minutes were reviewed from the October 12 Regular Board meeting. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the minutes as printed. M.C.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** David Moon, president of Kellner Knights snowmobile club, discussed the current trail going through the boat landing north parking lot. The club will post signs in the area. The boat landing cul de sac will be plowed for fire department use in case of fire emergencies. The pedestrian trail will be blocked so snowmobiles cannot use it. The balance of the boat landing parking lot will not be plowed. The Village president, fire chief, public works crew will meet with David Moon to develop a route.

**FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Chair Patty Gapen reporting. The committee met November 4. All bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and Utility departments were in order. Motion Muleski, second Guillemot to approve all bills and journal entries for October. M.C. Motion Guillemot, second Steward to pay each Village employee a \$250 bonus November 15<sup>th</sup> for covering Public Works Director duties. M.C. The Finance Committee will continue to review monthly. The Village Clerk requested to carry over or be paid out for three weeks of unused vacation. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp the Clerk use one week and be paid out for two weeks. M.C. The preliminary 2021 Village Budget was revised. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the budget for the purpose of posting for the public hearing scheduled for November 23. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve the Finance Committee report. M.C.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee are: Receipts for October 2020: \$109,627.71. Expenses: \$122,327.67. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 22689-22764 with 7 auto pays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of October bills paid from the General Fund was included for the Board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$945,156.70. Utilities Checking: \$211,431.51. Money Market \$249,923.73. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4445-4460. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$14,474.99. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for the Board to review. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the October Treasurer's report. M.C.

**BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Chief David Kerkman reporting. October training was on ropes and knots. There were 5 emergency calls and 2 fire calls in October. Current department roster is at 20. Members conducted fire education at Biron Head Start and handed out candy at the Village park for Halloween. The Chief and the apparatus committee presented a proposal for a 2021 Custom 1250 GPM Pumper to include a Metro Star MFD 10" raised roof chassis cab, Cummins L9 380HP engine, Waterous 1250 gpm fire pump with FoamPro 2001, 750 gallon capacity water tank, and stainless steel fire service apparatus body, built by CustomFire, at a cost of \$517,584.00. This new pumper will replace Engine 2, which has warped valves, pressure

loss, starting issues, tires failed a DOT check. Engine 1 is being used currently, which shortens its life due to extended use now. A down payment of \$216,269 is required with the remainder due at time of completion. If prepaid in full a discount of \$15,000 is offered, reducing the price to \$502,584. \$150,000 would be paid from the Village non-lapsing fund along with the 2020 budgeted contribution of \$20,000. The Village would need to borrow the remainder up to \$350,000. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to grant preliminary approval for the committee to meet with CustomFire to finalize the order. M.C. The Board will recommend financing at their December meeting. Engine 2 will be advertised for sale and when sold, the funds will be deposited in the Village non-lapsing fund. Motion Guillemot, second Muleski to approve the Fire Department report. M.C.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. The committee will meet in closed session after the President's Report.

**LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Muleski reported he continues to monitor ongoing ordinance violations with the clerk and building inspector. Ordinance codification is complete and a public hearing will be held on the Zoning chapters November 23. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. A representative from Xylem will be here next week with a quote to repair lift station #1. The road has been repaired in the business park and by kidney island on South Biron Drive. ND Paper has been contacted weekly to repair the tracks on South Biron Drive. They're now stating they have no money to make the repairs. Terra will be contacted again regarding them completing sewer lining repairs they are responsible for. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. Per our Rental Agreement the Rules and Regulations states *Damage to Docks: The customer is responsible for any damage to the dock beyond normal wear and tear as determined by the Village, and the cost to repair such damage shall be the sole responsibility of the Customer.* The committee recommends we implement this rule and proceed with billing the customer for the damage to repair the slips. The committee recommends reimbursing customer Hackbarth for the fee of \$180.00 paid to Rapids Propeller for removal of their pontoon so MSC could proceed with removing the docks on October 15. The dock lease rental agreement form was revised to add an end of season vacating slip rule and current contact information rule. Additional information will be presented to customers pertaining to recommendations of bumpers off the sides of their vessel, a diagram showing how to tie up a vessel to a dock, and proper rope that needs to be used. Guillemot reported on the no wake buoy information he was able to gather. He was informed that we need to adopt a no wake ordinance. The committee agrees this is needed for safety reasons. He also spoke with a DNR representative who was helpful. He is going to continue to research what the Village will need to do to incorporate the no wake buoys in the boat landing area. Trustee Carlson requested AARP be allowed to use the Village hall for tax preparer training. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Public Property Committee report. M.C.

**WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. No report.

**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.* No meeting minutes were provided by the City.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Arndt reported on the General Election held November 3. Biron has 522 registered voters. Twenty-nine new voters registered at the polls. 483 voted (212 of them by absentee ballot) which is 87% turnout. There were no disturbances and no observers (poll watchers) attended. Grant funds received from the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) are eligible to use for (COVID-19) related hazard pay for election workers. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to use CTCL grant funds to pay a \$100 bonus to each of the seven election workers for the General Election. M.C. Arndt reported Governor Evers proclaimed November 2, 2020 as Election Hero Day. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Clerk's report. M.C.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Motion Honkomp, second to approve survey map for Classic Development, Part of Lot 1, CSM 10570 and part of Lot 1, CSM 10574, being part of Government Lot 5, Section 25 and part of the NE1/4NE1/4, Section 36, all in T23N, R6E, Village of Biron. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Guillemot to approve survey map for Erbes Construction, all of Lot 1, being part of Government Lot 5, Section 25, T23N, R6E, Village of Biron. M.C. Both properties are located in the Bridgewater development.

Motion Evenson, second Steward to approve Earth, Inc. Pay Application 2-FINAL for \$10,828.90, for work completed on the North Biron Drive sanitary sewer extension west of Huffman Road. M.C.

The Village Clerk sent a letter with appropriate documentation and photos to the DNR representatives, requesting release of the Letter of Credit dated September 21, 2018 for the Bridgewater/County U Relocation Project.

The Village municipal attorney, Nick Abts, has left his former law firm and opened his own law practice. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to continue legal services with Nick Abts. M.C.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to enter into Closed Session at 7:50 p.m. pursuant to Wis. Stats Section 19.85 (1) (c), for 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: consider employment offer of Public Works Director/Water Superintendent position, and email scam resolution. Upon Roll Call Vote: Evenson – yes; Carlson – yes; Gapen – yes; Guillemot – yes; Honkomp – yes; Muleski – yes; Steward -yes. M.C.

Motion Honkomp, second Gapen to reconvene in Open Session at 8:12 p.m. Upon Roll Call Vote: Evenson – yes; Carlson – yes; Gapen – yes; Guillemot – yes; Honkomp – yes; Muleski – yes; Steward -yes. M.C.

Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to proceed as discussed in Closed Session. M.C.

Motion Muleski, second Guillemot to approve the President's report. M.C.

**ADJOURN:** Motion Muleski, second Guillemot to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. M.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jon T. Evenson, President

