

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

The February 10, 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, June Siegler, Dan Muleski. Mark Honkomp excused. Also present: 5 guests

MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed from the January 13, 2020 Board meeting. Motion Muleski, second Steward, to approve the minutes as printed. M.C.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE: Motion Evenson, second Carlson to appoint Mike Guillemot to fill the vacant Trustee position effective February 10, 2020 and approve his appointment to Finance, Personnel and Public Works Committees. M.C. He will be completing the term of office that ends in April 2021. The Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Trustee Guillemot. (Note: vacancy created when former Trustee Walker resigned in July 2019 because he moved out of the Village.)

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: Tammy Steward reporting. The committee met February 5. All bills, non-lapsing accounts and journal entries for the Village and Utility departments were in order. Motion Steward, second Muleski to pay tax settlement reconciliations to Wood County, Wisconsin Rapids Schools, and Mid-State Technical College in the amount of \$370,372.36. M.C. Motion Steward, second Evenson to approve utilities special assessment refund to Candace Czaikowski for \$1,416.48. She had paid and her mortgage company also paid. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Siegler to approve all bills and journal entries for January and to approve the Finance Committee report. M.C.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee are: Receipts for January 2020: \$443,845.14. Expenses: \$586,987.77. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 22091-22164 with 9 auto pays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of January bills paid from the General Fund was included for the Board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$959,489.92. Utilities Checking: \$118,839.54. Money Market \$361,234.49. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4329-4340. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$14,453.97. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for the Board to review. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve the Treasurer's report. M.C.

BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Kerkman reported ten calls were made in January. Training was held on radio communications and a CPR and AED refresher. Current active department roster is nineteen. The department hosted the Wood County Fire Chiefs meeting. New fire helmets for all members were purchased with fund raiser funds. Chief Kerkman showed the Board a new helmet and explained the features. Chief Kerkman stated he would like to create a spec committee to gather information for purchase of a new fire truck. Engine #1 was purchased in 1998. There is no large diameter hose on it. There are on foam capabilities on Engine #1 or #2. The spec process could take up to six months. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve creating a spec committee, consisting of four to five department members, one Village

crew member and one Village Trustee. M.C. Motion Carlson, second Siegler to approve the Fire Department report. M.C.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. A training issue has been resolved with the Clerk attending the morning session and the utility clerk attending the afternoon session. The water superintendent will staff the office during lunch travel time. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Personnel Committee report. M.C.

LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Dan Muleksi reporting. Muleski reported the Zoning ordinances are the final step in codification. A report from Multi-Metro Deer Management was reviewed. Motion Siegler, second Evenson to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve purchase of a Salt Dogg spreader from CMK for use on the walking trail and other areas at a cost of \$1,700.00. Funds to be paid from the Public Works Truck and Equipment budget line item. M.C. A tree branch fell and broke the windshield of the 2001 backhoe. Motion Muleski, second Steward to replace the windshield at a cost of \$896.00. M.C. The 2008 Ford dump truck box is rusted badly. Motion Muleski, second Steward to have the truck box repaired by Saratoga Sandblasting for \$200.00. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson June Siegler reporting. Chief Kerkman discussed the fire department's need for a washing machine that will meet the requirements needed to wash their turn out gear. The old washing machine no longer works and has been disposed of. To keep its warranty turnout gear has requirements to be washed with specific guidelines. Estimates for new washers are \$4,229.00 to \$7,270.00. He found a used 3 year old washer that will meet the department's needs; a Unimac 30 pound commercial grade washer for \$2,760.00. Motion Siegler, second Muleski to approve the purchase, to be paid for with pancake breakfast proceeds of \$1,298.00 and the balance of \$1,462.00 to be paid from the Fire Department fund raising account. M.C. Additional expenses to have the washer installed will be paid from the Fire Department's budget.

Discussion was held regarding installing hand dryers in the bathrooms near the boat landing on North Biron Drive. Vruwink will obtain quotes for additional wiring as the bathrooms are already constructed. Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve the Public Property Committee report. M.C.

WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. Nine contractors submitted bids for the Eagle Road construction/Biron water utility upgrade project to commence this Spring. The winning bidder is Gerke Excavating of Tomah, WI. The Biron portion of this project is to cost \$329,680.54. This includes 1,800 feet of sixteen-inch water main to be insulated under Eagle Road. The insulation is needed because parts of Eagle Road will be lowered with the reconstruction and there will not be enough ground cover to prevent freezing. It also includes installing 1,340 feet of twelve-inch water main beginning at the intersection of North Biron Drive and South Biron Drive to connect to a ten-inch water main near the Verso Technical Center. This improvement will help with the low flow rate of water the upper part of the Village is currently experiencing. It will also help with water flow to hydrants for firefighting purposes. Other improvements are to abandon the six-inch water main on the west side of Eagle Road and reconnect to Deer Street and Buffalo Street via the water main on the east side of Eagle Road. Six hundred feet of old water main on South Biron Drive will be replaced with new. Discussion held

regarding how the project would be financed. Evenson asked if the debt should be the burden of the water utility plus borrowed money. Should the Village pay a portion? The water utility committee will be meeting prior to the March board meeting to determine project funding.

New EPA lead and copper rules to be introduced in 2020 were reviewed by Vruwink. Currently, water testing in ten homes occurs every three years. He will continue to provide updates to the Board.

The generator at the water tower needs replacing. Motion Carlson, second Muleski to approve purchasing a Kohler generator from Current Technologies for \$8,890.00 installed. M.C. Funds to be paid from Repairs of Water Plant budget line item.

Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve purchase of a rebuild kit for the well and pump valves and air release for \$1,140.00. M.C. Funds to be paid from Repairs of Water Plant budget line item.

Motion Muleski, second Steward 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.* Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the January 8, 2020 minutes. M.C.

CLERK'S REPORT: Arndt reported on information received about the U.S. Census. Letters will be sent to every resident soon with responses due April 1, 2020. Flyers will be available at both Spring elections. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Clerk's report. M.C.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Earth, Inc. is back on site at the Bridgewater development area and will abandon certain sections of the road, tear out culverts, begin building piers, clean up the bank along the cranberry canal. There is a tentative agreement with Farmland Management to construct a cold storage facility in the Biron Business Park. Motion Muleski, second Carlson to approve the President's report. M.C.

ADJOURN: Motion Evenson, second Muleski to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. M.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Jon T. Evenson, President