

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – MARCH 14, 2016**

The March 14, 2016 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:** Trustees: Mark Honkomp, Tammy Steward, Bob Walker, Dan Muleski, Susan Carlson and June Siegler were present. Also present: Public Works Supervisor Bill Vruwink, Treasurer Pam Witt, Cindy Henke, and Lee Gilhausen, MSA representative

**MINUTES:** Minutes were reviewed from the Regular Board Meeting held February 8, 2016. **Motion** Carlson, second Muleski to approve the minutes as presented. M.C. Minutes were reviewed from the Special Board Meeting held February 29, 2016. **Motion** Muleski, second Siegler to approve the minutes as presented. M.C.

**FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE:** Chairperson Bob Walker reporting. The committee met March 9. All bills were in order. Walker reported on a conversation he had with Mr. Sigler of Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank regarding long-term financing of the Village's short-term loan obligation. **Motion** by Muleski, second Walker to accept the Finance & Budget Committee report. M.C.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. The totals reported to the Finance Committee are: receipts for February 2016 were \$300,898.25. Expenses were \$1,788,880.64. General checking account bills were paid on check #18752-18826 with 3 auto pays to pay IRS, Deferred Comp and State Retirement for payroll deductions. A list of all February bills was included for the board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$842,239.06. **Water Utility:** Checking \$162,249.95 Money Market \$449,611.03. Water bills were paid on check #3770-3774. **Wastewater Department:** Checking \$66,512.32. Non-Lapsing Fund \$14,356.68. Wastewater bills were paid on check #2810-2811. A list of all checks paid for water & wastewater was included for the board to review. **Motion** by Honkomp, second Evenson to accept the Treasurer's report. M.C.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. A Notice of Election from the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission was received for Teamsters Union Local No. 662. Voting will be held April 7-27. **Motion** by Evenson, second Honkomp to accept the Personnel Committee report. M.C.

**LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. The committee met at 5:30 P.M. this date to review the recycling ordinance. The biggest challenge for residents is recycling electronics. **Motion** by Honkomp, second Steward to approve the revisions, add recycling information to the Village website, and to accept the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Muleski received a quote of approximately \$121,000.00 from MSA for street lighting along S. Biron Drive from First Street to Wellington Place. However, this cost is not grant eligible and the Board will need to decide on lights after Gateway Park is completed. Brush pickup will begin the last week of April. Grass and leaf pickup will be the second week in April through the second week in May. Muleski stated there are Village entry signs that need to be replaced on Eagle Road, 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, and S. Biron Drive. We are awaiting word from the Village's attorney on the lease agreement with US Cellular for an antenna on the water tower. Public Works Director Vruwink said Fahrner will crack seal all roads rated 6 and above for \$10,000. The crew has been cleaning out the shop and will be selling a portable welder, portable water pump and a safety trailer. **Motion** Siegler, second Carlson to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

**WATER UTILITY UPDATE:** Chairperson Susan Carlson reporting. **Water Superintendent's Update -** Vruwink reported the transfer switch is inoperable. Current Technologies provided a quote of \$6,500.00 for a new transfer switch, including installation. **Motion** Muleski, second Walker to accept the quote for a transfer switch and to accept the Water Utility Committee report. M.C.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION REPORT:** Committee Chairperson June Siegler reporting. Siegler presented a drawing submitted by Sara Steward for a welcome sign near the Gateway Park entrance. It would be painted on wood to maintain the rustic look. Tritz on Hwy 13 has wood slabs that would be appropriate for this type of sign. An update will be provided at a future meeting. Public Works Director Vruwink reported he was successful in obtaining a \$1,000 grant from Canadian National Railroad for purchasing trees. Lee Gilhausen, Project Inspector for MSA, reviewed the bid process for

completing Gateway Park. Sealed bids may be submitted at the Biron Municipal Center by April 5 at 9:00 AM, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The bid will be awarded at the Village's Regular Board Meeting to be held April 11 at 6:30 P.M. **Motion** by Muleski, second Walker to approve the Public Property, Safety & Recreation Committee report. M.C.

**WASTEWATER COMMISSION REPORT:** Commission member Tammy Steward reporting. *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 from the March 2, 2016 wastewater commission meeting were available for review. **Motion** Walker, second Muleski to accept the Wastewater Treatment Commission report. M.C.

**PRESIDENT'S UPDATE:** President Evenson stated he has ongoing conversations with Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank and Ehlers regarding the loan obligation. Correspondence regarding Verso bankruptcy was available for review and is being forwarded to the Village's attorney. An open records request was received and the Clerk will be working with the Village's attorney to provide the information. Evenson met with Steven Anderson from the Regional Economic Growth Initiative (REGI) regarding possible partnership to promote the business park. Mr. Anderson will be attending a future Board meeting. The village DNR stewardship grants for the S. Biron Drive project are due to expire June 30. Evenson recommended not extending the grants due to the MSA project completion date of June 30. The *Biron Village Park and Biron Flowage Recreational Trail Development* grant also expires June 30. Evenson stated he would be sending a letter asking for a time extension of this grant. **Motion** Muleski, second Siegler to approve the letter being sent requesting an extension of the stewardship grant. M.C. The Board reviewed a flyer provided by Wisconsin Rapids Rafters for a Village of Biron night to be held July 7. **Motion** by Evenson, second by Steward for the village to subsidize \$1.00 per ticket for village residents. M.C. Tickets will be sold at the Municipal Center in the near future. **Motion** by Muleski, second by Steward to approve the President's Update. M.C.

**ADJOURN – Motion** Honkomp, second Walker to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. M.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

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

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