

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

The September 14, 2020 Regular Village Board meeting was called to order at 6:36 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: 3 guests

MINUTES: Minutes were reviewed from the August 31st Special Board meeting. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the minutes as printed. M.C.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: Chair Patty Gapen reporting. The committee met September 9. 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 August and to approve the Committee report. M.C.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee are: Receipts for August 2020: \$619,539.42. Expenses: \$730,934.60. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 22561-22636 with 6 auto pays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of August bills paid from the General Fund was included for the Board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$958,742.15. Utilities Checking: \$161,732.63. Money Market \$246,862.43. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4416-4431. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$14,471.43. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for the Board to review. Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve the August Treasurer's report. M.C.

BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief David Kerkman reporting. August training was on motor pump operation. There were 12 emergency calls in August. Current department roster is at 17. Recruitment is on-going. Members of the apparatus committee toured other community fire departments that recently purchased new fire trucks. They will be working on a spec sheet to present to the Public Property Committee. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Fire Department report. M.C.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. Spectrum Insurance Group awarded the Village a certificate for outstanding injury-free performance, earning the lowest possible experience modification. Teamsters Joint Council No. 39 has notified the Village of their desire to continue the agreement for the purpose of negotiating changes or revisions in wages, hours, and working conditions. Honkomp reviewed a Presidential Memorandum deferring certain employee Social Security tax withholding. This is not mandatory and there are no penalties if a municipality continues withholding following normal procedures. The Village will continue payroll tax withholdings. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Committee report and to recognize Village staff and crew for their outstanding performance on loss prevention. M.C.

LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Muleski reported he continues to monitor ongoing ordinance violations with the clerk and

building inspector. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. Vruwink indicated the ND Papers meter readings for Aug. 12 were inconsistent with the information we were given on their usage and he emailed the Maintenance Manager the information. No replies have been received back from him. Vruwink indicated it is their wastewater system and bills should be sent to them with the readings we receive.

2021 Wastewater budget: Vruwink reported that the lift station control box needs to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$11,500. MSA needs to upgrade our GIS system for \$3,500. Inspection by Wisconsin Rapids video camera on WW pipes for next year estimated cost \$5,000.

2021 Public Works budget: Vruwink stated our current lawnmower needs replacing. A Ferris mower is \$12,400. A Grasshopper diesel mower is \$17,290 and gas model is \$12,290.

Motion Steward, second Muleski to pay \$13,819.65 to Wood County Highway Department for chipsealing Village streets; funds to be paid from the Resurface Village Streets non-lapsing fund. M.C.

Motion Muleski, second Steward to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. Guillemot reported he toured the Village public property with Vruwink. The gangway to the fishing pier at Gateway Park isn't quite ADA compliant and an extension may be needed. A party contacted President Evenson regarding using the Sunset Point Park area for a family wedding ceremony. There is no permit needed as it is a public park. However, the committee will create a reservation form so we will be aware of an event to avoid doubling up reservations. It was suggested using traffic cones on the recreational trail near the restrooms and pedestrian bridge to temporarily block the area during the ceremony. Discussion was held regarding cars parking in front of the boat landing instead of the designated parking areas, taking the longer parking spaces designed for vehicles with boat trailers. It was suggested signs be placed in the area or a stencil put on the parking space next spring. Dock rentals end October 15 for the season. A waiting list is started for the 2021 season. MSC will be removing the docks after October 15. They will be stored at the south end of the boat landing area parking lot during the winter. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to approve the Public Property Committee report. M.C.

WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. Carlson proposed that the Village Board assume the water revenue bond payment for 2021. Also discussed was the US Cellular tower rent contract is to expire in 2022. Carlson suggested we may want to contact the Village Attorney to help negotiate a new contract agreement. Vruwink reported on the Eagle Road water main project. The bid price had included some items of service that may not need to be complete. There may be a reduction in the current bid amount of approximately \$47,000. Carlson suggested the water utility and village split that amount. She will bring a proposal to the next Board meeting. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski 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 Guillemot, second Evenson to approve minutes of August 12, 2020. M.C.

CRANBERRY BREAKFAST: Motion Evenson, second Muleski to postpone the breakfast for 2020. M.C.

CLERK'S REPORT: Trick or Treat was discussed. Many municipalities have cancelled. A formal decision will be made at the October 12 Board meeting. The Demographic Services Center's preliminary estimate of the January 1, 2020 population for the Village is 819, which represents a change of 20 fewer people since the 2010 Census. Approximately 669 of the estimated population of the Village are of voting age (age 18 and above) but only 509 are registered to vote. Arndt reported absentee ballots for the November 3 General Election will be mailed to those with valid requests on file by the deadline of September 17. In-person absentee voting will be available at the Municipal Center October 20-30 during normal business hours. Arndt reported unbudgeted COVID-19 related expenditures for reimbursement through the Routes to Recovery: Local Government Aid Grants Program have been submitted for Phase 2. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Clerk's report. M.C.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Evenson reported the August 26 ribbon cutting ceremony at Bridgewater was well attended. Boating and water activity in the area has far exceeded expectations. Evenson thanked the Village crew for their work during the construction process. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the President's report. M.C.

ADJOURN: Motion Honkomp, second Steward 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

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LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Muleski reported he continues to monitor ongoing ordinance violations with the clerk and

building inspector. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

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