

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES – July 11, 2022**

The July 11, 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, Mark Honkomp, Dan Muleski. Also present: Clerk Anne Arndt, Treasurer Samantha Daugherty, and six guests.

**MINUTES:** Motion Honkomp, second Guillemot to approve minutes of the June 13, 2022 Regular Board Meeting as printed. Motion carried, with Muleski abstaining. Motion Muleski, second Gapen to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2022 Special Board Meeting. Motion carried, with Honkomp abstaining.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Tom Haferman stated his opposition to angle parking off 80<sup>th</sup> Street east of the slew for boat slip renters. He cited road safety, intended use, construction and maintenance cost, convenience, and appearance. Evenson stated angle parking is at the investigative state only at this time. Marilee Evenson voiced concerns with geese and ducks in the area of Gateway Park. Many of them are being run over by drivers. She presented the Village with two “geese and crackers” crossing road signs to be installed in the area.

**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 Steward 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 Samantha Daugherty reporting. Motion Honkomp, second Guillemot to appoint Samantha Daugherty to complete the remainder of the unexpired term of office due to the retirement of Pam Witt. Motion carried. Totals reported to the Finance Committee: Receipts for June: \$69,037.17 and Expenses: \$100,750.80. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 24091-24145 with eight autopays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of June bills paid from the General Fund was included for review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$1,035,228.24. Utilities Checking: \$225,908.59. Water Money Market \$319,403.15. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4735-4749. Wastewater Non-Lapsing Fund: \$34,032.00. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for review. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

**BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Chief Dave Kerkman reporting. June training was a second round of hose testing. A boat drill was also conducted on the Wisconsin river. Three medical and four fire calls were made in June. Department members began business fire inspections. Chief Kerkman applied for an annual DNR fire grant and is working on an EMS flex grant for \$20,000 for equipment, training, and recruitment/retainment funds. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Volunteer Fire Department report. Motion carried.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to convene into Closed Session 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: to consider July compensation for the treasurer; and consider holiday pay for a temporary employee. Upon Roll Call vote: Evenson, yes; Biegel, yes; Gapen, yes; Guillemot, yes; Honkomp, yes; Muleski, yes; Steward, yes. Motion carried. Motion Muleski second Guillemot to reconvene in Open Session at 8:40 p.m. Upon voice vote, motion carried. Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to pay both Witt and Daugherty the treasurer position salary for July. Motion carried. Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to pay a temporary employee four hours holiday pay for July 4 and July 5 (8 hours total). Motion carried. Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to approve the Personnel Committee report. Motion carried.

**LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. Elizabeth Dammen was issued a provisional operator's license. She has applied for a regular operator's license. Motion Muleski, second Evenson to grant the operator's license. Motion carried. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. Steward reported the crew has been repairing approaches to the alleys. The area where paving was removed at the village garage has been seeded over. Motion Muleski, second Biegel to approve the Public Works Committee report.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. Action will be taken at the August Board meeting to adopt the Resolution 22-04 and Ordinance 11.06 for Slow-No-Wake Areas. Invoices from MSC were reviewed and approved for payment of \$50,868.35. The renter of boat slip 61 stated he has difficulty steering his pontoon in/out of the slip due to the water depth and has requested a partial refund. The Committee recommends offering him the choice of a different slip on the same cluster. The renter of boat slip 55 sold his boat and is requesting a refund. Motion Guillemot, second Muleski that no refunds will be given. Motion carried. This language will be added to the dock rental agreement. Discussion was held regarding the rental rate for a partial season. Motion Guillemot, second Muleski the rental rate will be discounted \$300.00 for those renting a boat slip after July 15. The Committee recommends increasing the Municipal Center Hall rental rate by \$50.00 for the Association for All Handicapped Citizens. Motion Guillemot, second Biegel to increase the rental rate by \$50, effective September 1, 2022. Motion carried. Motion Muleski, second Guillemot to approve the Public Property Committee report. Motion carried.

**WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT:** Chairperson Jamie Biegel reporting. Water Works & Lighting are now doing water testing for the Village. Zach will be meeting with a DNR representative about discontinuing fluoride in the water system. Motion Gapen, second Guillemot to approve 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.* Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to approve the June 8, 2022 Commission minutes and the Wastewater Commission report. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Clerk Anne Arndt reporting. Board of Review minutes from June 16, 2022 were reviewed. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Board of Review minutes. Motion carried. The Village has purchased a laptop computer for Trustee use at committee meetings. It

must be checked out if taken out of the Municipal Center. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the Clerk's report. Motion carried.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Discussion held on brush pickup and current practices. A new brush pickup policy was created. *Brush pickup is performed during the last week of each month from April through October. In the case of large storm events, these schedules may be extended. Scheduled weeks are posted on Biron's website. The last week of the month is determined by the week in which the final day of the month falls.*

*Biron asks that brush be piled in one direction and placed near, but not on the road. Please limit brush to a maximum of twelve (12) feet in length. Please keep brush piles away from mailboxes, lawn ornaments, street lights, signs, power poles or any other object that would prohibit pickup.*

*Biron's brush chipper is limited to brush 6" in diameter. If you currently have tree limbs, logs, or brush that exceeds 6" in diameter, you will need to dispose of those items yourself. Passes for the City of Wisconsin Rapids compost sites are sold at the Municipal Center. The \$55.00 pass fee is established by Wisconsin Rapids and allows disposal of lawn waste and brush of any size, as well as access to recycled black dirt/compost.*

*Biron asks that if removing an entire tree, residents consider the services of a professional tree service, and as part of that service – having the entire tree removed. If removing a smaller tree on your own, please check with the Village of Biron staff to determine Biron's ability to assist in removing brush and limbs. It is likely that the larger portion of the tree, such as the trunk and large limbs, will have to be disposed of by yourself.*

Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the brush pickup policy. Motion carried. The policy will be added to the website and the Biron Information Booklet.

Holiday observance was discussed. The Personnel Committee will approve holidays and when they are observed annually at their November meeting.

Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve the President's report.

**ADJOURN:** Motion Honkomp, second Gapen to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Jon T. Evenson, President