

**Village of Eau Claire
Monday, February 21, 2022
Unapproved Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

Regular Council meeting called to order 5:30 PM Village President John Glassman

Members Present: Virginia Gonzalez, Jeff Rice, Brittany Tanke, Ken Karn, Treasurer Lisa Borkowski, Clerk Shawn Foster, Chief Charles Sherene, Secretary Kathy Arend

Absent: PWS Mike Keesler

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Karn to approve the agenda, second by Gonzalez. All Ayes, Motion carried

Recognition of Visitors: Ken Karn Jr., Beth Pompey Zoning & Code enforcer, Mike Demski, Karen Snyder & Rick Ferris Realtors.

Visitor Discussion: Mike Demski & Realtors Karen Snyder & Rick Ferris have been working with the new property owner and the Berrien Co. Health Dept. they attended to ask permission for 6705 E. Main St. to be able to discharge grey water into the Village system. The property will still have a septic tank for solids that the Berrien Co. Health Dept. will monito, the Village just needs to check on easements.

Beth Pompey of Zoning Solutions, Inc. is the Village Code Enforcer & Zoning Administrator she attended to give examples and advice for Right of Way permitting, Solar Panel Ordinance and permitting fees. She will also work with the Planning Commission and be their secretary as there are new mandatory rules for a PC by the State. Ken Karn Jr. is wondering about the Planning Commission Opening, it has been discussed with the Planning Commission Chair and we will swear Ken Karn Jr. in for the seat on the Planning Commission.

Approval of the Board Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2021, Motion by Rice, second by Gonzalez, All Ayes, Motion carried.

Board Minutes: Fireboard Minutes for December 15, 2021 & Incident Summery of December 2021 available in the Clerks office.

Library Board Minutes: Meeting minutes of February 14, 2022 available in the Clerk's office.

Building: Discussed no longer having FAX machines as it is old technology and everything should be scanned now. The Police Dept. still needs a FAX machine, the Clerk will change the new FAX machine to the Police FAX number and they will use the new FAX as theirs is so old the ink costs \$100 and is discontinued.

Still looking at options for the Clerks office door and will get prices for a Dutch door.

Finance/Treasurer's Report: Departmental Balance Report 01/01/2022 – 01/31/2021

All Funds	1,264,550.98				
Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted	Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted
General		397,397.68	Sanitation		1,821.83
Major Streets		322,841.08	Sewer	74,460.00	49,934.00
Local Streets		19,593.88	Water	158,730.00	27,066.76
Municipal Streets		211,705.75			

Motion to accept the Departmental Balance Report for December 2021 by Rice, second by Tanke, all ayes, motion carried.

Payment of the Bills: Motion by Tanke, second by Rice to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$24,297.96.26 All ayes; motion carried.

Employee Wage Report: Total Gross Wages from January 1 – 31, 2022 were \$21,084.40 with a total of 1,040.86 hours worked for all regular Village Employees. January had 3 pay periods and checks were cut for unused vacation time from 2021.

Utilities Report: Previous amount \$9,913.75, previous penalties \$3,650.90 current amount due \$22,092.31, total due \$35,656.96.

Budget: 2022-2023 Budget amendments were gone over for each dept. for Revenues and Expenses. A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm to approve the final Budget.

Police Department: Tickets 2. Incidents 5. Officer Hernandez had inquired about comp-time, when he was hired this was not part of his hiring package and he is to work 38 hours a week, if he thinks he will go over his time, then adjust timecard and take off hours so as not to exceed 38 hours per week.

Administrative: Beth Pompey spoke about a Solar Panel Ordinance as this is becoming more common, she will work on ROW permits, she will also do the 5-year Master Plan with the Planning Commission, the current plan is 4 years old so a new plan will be due in one year; this should save the Village money. She will work with the Planning Commission on the ARPA funds the Village will be receiving.

Friends of Berrien County's Trails: asked for a donation of \$1,000 to \$2,000, at this time none of the proposed trails are coming through Eau Claire, General Village Law prohibits donations of this kind.

Annexation: Since the annexation of the I & M's substation into the Village the Zoning Map will have to be re-done, this can go along with the Master Plan.

Parks/Community Development: No new business

Water/sewer/solid waste:

Meters: There are still several existing meters in businesses that need to be changed out to the new drive by read meters. The Clerk found a couple more meters that were not programmed correctly.

EGLE: (Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy): states that the Village needs to have an Operations & Maintenance Manual for Ground Water Monitoring. The Clerk has contacted Wightman to put this together and it could cost up to \$5,000. They will come out after the New Year.

Water & Sewer Rates: Michigan Rural Water is in the process of conducting a rate study for the Village utilities. Laboratory sampling and testing will be done through Trace Analytical Laboratories, Inc. Their costs are lower than the current Lab Tech and they will provide what EGLE needs so the Village can get back into compliance.

The Code Enforcer: water problem on Pipestone St. as the water from the neighbor's sump pump is discharging into the roadway & driveway. The Village attorney has stated that there are Public Nuisance laws but to not get involved in a neighbor disputes.

Streets: No new business

Planning Commission: Ken Karn Jr. will be appointed to the commission, Beth Pompey will be the Secretary, we will try to have a Planning Commission Meeting on March 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

Equipment: The Village needs to purchase a PH meter and possibly a DO meter for water/sewer dept. asap.

Sanitation: No new business.

Motion to adjourn: 7:20 PM.

Unapproved Meeting minutes by: Shawn Foster, Clerk