

Record of Proceedings
Village of Bremen Council Meeting
January 27, 2020

The Council of the Village of Bremen was called to order in regular session by Mayor Anthony Taylor at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. Members present were Debbie Wolfe, Chris Cunningham, Tad Moyer, Toni Harper and Todd Wesaw. Also, in attendance, Ron Stephens, acting temporary Village Admin. Tracy Shahan was asked to take minutes of the proceedings.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors: Dan Rutherford, Sally Grimm, Maris Mahler, David McCandlish, Mary Hoffman, Brenda Cunningham, Carla Waring, Angi Marinacci-Young, Connie Moyer, Earl Lehman, Dakota Taylor and Laurie Withem.

Guests and Residents: None on agenda to speak.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for council meeting on January 13, 2020 were handed out. Toni made a motion to accept the minutes. Second by Tad. Roll Call: Wolfe yes, Harper yes, Cunningham yes, Wesaw yes, T. Moyer yes. Motion passed.

Mayor Report: A letter of consideration has been received for the open council seat. Mayor Taylor explained that council has up to 30 days to select a replacement. After 30 days, the mayor may appoint someone to the position. Toni Harper moved to appoint Connie Moyer to the vacant seat for the term ending in 2024. Debbie Wolfe 2nd. Roll Call: Wolfe yes, Harper yes, Cunningham yes, Wesaw yes, T. Moyer yes. Motion passed. Connie Moyer took the Oath of Office and joined the other members at the table.

Fiscal Officer Report: No report at this time.

Audit Update: BHM has finished 2018 and now working on 2019. Discussion: The state audits every 2 years. The last audit for the village was in December, 2018. At that time the audit stated the finances were not reconciled after June, 2018. It is best/easiest to audit the entire year of 2018 as opposed to doing 6 months. Connie Moyer stated "Every audit has a post audit review. Council has the option to waive that review. That option should NEVER BE WAIVED."

Village Administrator Report: Ron Stephens has been hired as temporary Village Administrator. Ron retired from the Village in April, 2019. He worked in the water department and has knowledge of streets, water, sewage and employees.

Ron discussed the following issues he is currently working on:

1. Water & sewer rates: Currently billed 3 months in rears. Would like changed to 1 month.
2. Developing a new pay scale:
3. Soil samples for waste water plant project
4. Council committees: Todd handed out a list of sub-committees & members. Changes were made and residents volunteered to fill vacant seats on committees.
5. Park temporary budget
6. Non payments/utilities
- * 7. Village schedules (park schedules, projects needing done, dates/times to fly flags, etc.)
- * 8. IRS penalty: W-2s were filed, but not properly. A letter has been sent to the IRS asking the penalty to be waived.
9. Rushville issues: Currently working to restore "good faith" with Rushville and get the water rate issue resolved for the best interest of everyone.

Ron asked the council to allow him to use \$206 from the park budget to pay Porta Klean. Todd made a motion to move \$206 into the park budget to pay Porta Klean. Toni 2nd. Roll Call: Wolfe yes, Harper yes, Cunningham yes, Wesaw yes, T. Moyer yes, C. Moyer yes. Motion passed.

Discussion: Tad made a motion to temporarily allow the Village Administrator to spend up to \$15,000 without council approval. Debbie 2nd Council votes: Wolfe: yes Wesaw: yes Harper: yes Cunningham: yes T. Moyer: yes C. Moyer: no Motion passed.

*Administrative Process Committee agreed to prepare paperwork and bring to council for approval at the next meeting.

Approval to pay the bills: Tad made a motion to allocate \$9,086.28 to pay the current bills due. Chris 2nd. All members present: yea Motion passed.

Old Business:

Zoning Inspector – the position is still open

Streets: The bond issue will cover about ¼ of repairs and will generate approx. \$63,000/yr. Other ways to possibly get more money for street repairs: No police expense, eventually make Village Administrator and Fiscal Officer positions part time. Once the permanent budget is set, the project will be discussed further.

Fiscal Officer: Connie has received one resume. Mayor Taylor met with someone and answered questions regarding the position. It was advertised in the Eagle Gazette, the Village website, emailed to all county fiscal officers and posted on a private local community Facebook page.

Signatures on file with the bank:

Everything has been updated. Connie suggested that Brian sign as Acting Fiscal Officer on all purchase orders, along with member of the finance committee and Mayor Taylor until a Fiscal Officer is hired.

Misc.: Emails have been changed/updated. Locks have been changed on buildings and offices.

New Business:

Mowing: Tadd asked to consider the benefits of the village doing the mowing or hiring it out.

Permanent Budget: Once the permanent budget for 2020 has been set, Ron will monitor and work with fiscal officer. A suggestion was made to pre-approve payment for monthly recurring bills. Example: Some bills come in a day or two after the monthly business meeting and must wait to be approved for payment until the next meeting. This has caused late fees. Pre-approving will eliminate late fees and save money.

Reports made/given during meetings: Connie suggested an outline of reports be typed and handed to the person taking minutes to help with efficiency.

Sub-committee meetings: Finance: Meeting 1/29/20 at 6:30 pm. Beginning in February, committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 pm (prior to business meeting).

Administrative Process will meet on 1/30/20 at 6:00 pm.

Tad made a motion to appoint Troy Tripp as Tree Commissioner. Debbie 2nd. Roll Call: Wolfe yes, Harper yes, Cunningham yes, Wesaw yes, T. Moyer yes, C. Moyer yes. Motion passed.

Around the table:

C. Moyer: Nothing

T. Moyer: Snow – Are we prepared and ready? Answer: Yes

Wolfe: Welcome Connie and thank you Ron and Anthony for all your hard work.

Harper: Condition of sewers, especially on Bartlett Street. Would like to see the streets swept more often to keep dirt and debris from going into the sewer. Make citizens aware of the potential problems and ask their help in taking care of the area around their homes. Would like to see something in the newsletter about "What can you do to improve your village".

Wesaw: Welcome Ron and Connie. We have a good team.

Cunningham: Nothing

Mayor: Wanted to let the council members know there will be different opinions and possibly butt heads, but we are here for the betterment of the community.

Executive session:

At 9:18 pm Toni made a motion to go into executive session under ORC 121.22(G)(1) to discuss personnel issues and to include Ron and Tracy. Second by Connie. Roll Call: Wolfe yes, Harper yes, Cunningham yes, Wesaw yes, T. Moyer yes, C. Moyer yes. Motion passed.

Executive Session ended: 9:32 pm

Motion to adjourn by C. Moyer at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tracy J. Shahan
1/31/20

Anthony Taylor
Mayor

Todd Wesaw
Council President