

Bremen Village Council

Meeting Minutes March 9th, 2020

Meeting was called to order March 9th, 2020. by Mayor Anthony Taylor at 7:03p.m.

Pledge

Visitors, Ron Stephens- Village Administrator, Lisa Burnworth- Village Fiscal Officer, Craig Dennis, Earl Lehman, Tracy Shahan, Mary Hoffman, Dan Rutherford, Bill Montgomery, Chuck Vickeroy, Sally Grimm, Scott Snider, Maris Mahler, Angi Young, Ken Shofter.

Roll Call: Todd Wesaw -Aye, Toni Harper- Aye, M. Chris Cunningham-Absent, Tad Moyer-Aye, Debbie Wolfe-Aye, Connie Moyer-Aye.

Approval of prior minutes: **Motion** to approve minutes for council meeting on February 24th made by C. Moyer, Wolfe Second by . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes, Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Motion passed

Motion to accept committee minutes from Parks for March and Zoning for February by T. Harper, Wolfe second. **Discussion:** C. Moyer questioned Oak St. fire followup, which Bill Montgomery advised, would be in March 2020 zoning minutes. Rushcreek Township will be taking the lead. **Roll Call:** Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes, D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Motion passed.

Mayor's Report:

Rushville Council stated they were unable to meet to address issues regarding water contracts. President Pro temp unable to be present and they felt he would be crucial member. Meeting moved to April. Harper asked what the next steps and when the meeting could be rescheduled. C. Moyer asked if Mayor could request an Emergency Meeting to resolve this matter in order to correct matters and make sure Water Department is fully funded.

Following up on Trash Service provided for a Township vs. Village resident. Resident has been consistently paying for service since October 2007. Mayor requested a motion to eliminate practice.

Motion: Trash Services through the Village of Bremen contract is only made available to residents of the village made by C. Moyer, Harper Second. **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes, Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Motion passed

Fiscal Officer Report

Flag Donation fund – is 1000-529-0000 contributions are \$330.00 including today 3-9-20

Early Termination Notices from Public Power LLC. Attempting to assess penalties for termination of contract. We did not terminate. They terminated us and returned us to AEP The penalties are substantial and I would suggest the Finance committee review and contact Public Power LLC as to our actual obligations.

2019 Book to Bank is in balance 12/31/19 adjusted and reconciled balance is \$585,975.95

Year End is closed. Footnotes, Combined, and Combining Statements will be submitted to the Auditor of State by BHM due to the multiple adjustments and entries made.

January 2020 Bank reconciliation is complete and asking for approval and signatures, along with Payments listing.

Discussion occurred regarding past financial practices and new procedures that are now in place. Some council members feel strongly that we must not blame past council for the conditions and it is time to move forward without further accusation many expressed the importance to be transparent regarding past matters so all could educate themselves so these issues did not repeat themselves in the future.

Village Administrator Report

- Old Closed accounts are complete account resolved date back to 2014
- Advertising for swimming pool employment for manager and life guards
- OWDA Draws \$142, 479.00 for WWTP upgrade. The final draw submitted was for \$29,903.00. This I
- Requesting that council revisit the policy regarding accepting cash. Several council members expressed concern. After discussion, Council decided that current policy of NO CASH will remain in place.
- Ron noted he is trying to address how to recognize those people who have donated flag funds on a Veterans behalf. He is considering printing certificate for each Veteran to be recognized. But looking at other options. Sally Grimm stated she is looking at flag options that may be more affordable.
- Dan Rutherford asked for procedures for purchasing paint for Shelter house and Concession stand. He along with Earl Lehman plan to volunteer their time to complete these projects for the village. Ron responded they would need to obtain a couple of quotes for the type and gallons of paint they wanted to purchase and make sure the budget for parks had adequate money to purchase the items then he would receive a purchase order
- Scott Snider expressed a great concern for the conditions of the streets, leaves in gutters, catch basins full. The lack of presence of street personnel completing very important tasks. Noticing personnel not out of the shop in a timely manner in the mornings completing work. Mayor Taylor and Ron responded by stating they have recently purchased a "spoon" to assist in cleaning catch basin's and some time in the shop in the mornings is used to organize the work day and order or repair items needed. Ron is working on a schedule and the crew to improve their workflow. Chuck Vickeroy added that in the past we have used labor through the Sherriff's office community service program with leaf clean up. Councilperson T.Moyer responded about past processes and asked Bill Montgomery to elaborate. Earl Lehman stated that he does frequently observe the crew still in the shop at 7:30 am
- Remind everyone of Tire Collection day promoted by the Fairfield Department of Health

Approval of Payments and Purchase Orders

Purchase orders 25-2020 through 44-2020 presented for signatures

Warrants # 44726-44742 in the amount of \$23,421.84 were presented to the Council for signature (*notes – There are no EFT's to approve this meeting since payroll is not until 3-13. Additionally, warrant #44737 is \$3,277.77. Severely delinquent power bill for streetlights) Appropriation in general had to be increased to compensate for the additional. 1000-130-311 in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Transfer from 1000-910-910 general to 4201-920-920 Natureworks reason: original was done as advance. Of \$18,000.00 similar to a loan. When funds were not reimbursed from ODNR grant for the balance due the entire amount must be transferred from General to Natureworks to make the loan whole. Then the remaining balance from the original advance of unused funds in the amount \$4342.63 can be advanced back to the General making the loan complete and the totals both 0.00.

Additional discussion took place between council and several residents regarding the lease for the soccer field between the Village and Mr. Lester Sharp. No decision was reached without further information regarding the agreement between Mr. Sharp and The Village. Council agreed this should be reviewed but a committee must be assigned with the task.

Old Business:

3rd reading of ordinance for Water and Sewage. Mayor Taylor read **Ordinance 20201**

Harper moved to approve Ordinance 20201 as read. Wesaw second. . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes,D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Ordinance 20201 approved

New Business:

Bob Wolford representing CCA/Options Utility Consulting would like to present information regarding Utility billing for AEP. 614-832-3558. Council expressed no interest at this time given the existing contract with Public Power llc and the potential penalties as a result on non payment of bills in 2019 and being returned to AEP. Possible penalties from Public Power for failure to meet contract agreement is in excess of \$24,000.00. Lisa provided council with the termination fees from Public Power to review.

Transfer of Funds Resolution 1201 was presented to Council and read by Mayor Taylor. C. Moyer moved to approve Transfer of Funds Resolution 1201. Wesaw Second . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes,D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Resolution 1201 was passed. A copy will be provided to County Auditor office

2020 Permanent Appropriations Resolution.1201 2020 Total appropriations was presented and read by Mayor Taylor. Harper moved to approve 2020 Permanent Appropriations Resolution. Second by Wolfe. . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes,D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Resolution for 2020 Permanent Appropriations was passed. A copy of the resolution along with UAN Revenue and Appropriations budget will be provided to County Auditor office.

Repeal of prior Water/Wastewater Rate Ordinance 12-11-19 & 12-12-19was presented and read by Mayor Taylor with a request to pass as an emergency repeal. Harper moved to waive the 3 reading requirement and pass as emergency. Wesaw second. . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes, C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes,D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Motion to Repeal Ordinance 12-11-19 and 12-12-19 made by Harper. Second by C. Moyer . . **Roll Call:** T.Wesaw yes, T.Harper yes,

C.Cunningham absent, T. Moyer yes,D. Wolfe yes, C. Moyer- yes. Repeal of Ordinance 12-11-19 and 12-12-19 was passed

Funds received from R. Howell in December 2016 in the amount of \$2,000. Wolfe provided copies of documents regarding \$2,000 donated from Howell family in 2016. Wolfe provided copy of a letter and prior financial spreadsheet completed in Excel. Wolfe felt the funds were to be specifically ear marked for a sign and had ended up in Dowling Park grant funds or General Fund. Lisa stated that she had been unable to track this specific funds and assumed they were used for other purchases or had been absorbed into the General Fund at some point. Lisa further stressed that funds for specific items can only be put into a fund and not tracked individually. Example donation funds can be added to a fund with a note of the donation but that each committee is responsible for maintaining the funds spent from a fund and a budget. Donation money can be added to the Park, Pool, General etc. But beyond that each committee should review their budget and appropriation report to maintain their funds

Bill Montgomery from the Zoning Committee spoke about issues from the March zoning committee meeting. The committee is addressing demo and bldg. fees. The committee will be working to amend Ordinance that was created 3-2-17. The committee will be recommending a \$50.00 fee for structures over 200 sq. feet This would need to be presented as Amended Ordinance with 3 readings.

Round Table:

T. Wesaw: Expressed his apology for the passionate response regarding old financial issues and willingness to trust information that was being provided. He also expressed he is putting trust in the new administration and staff to inform them of financial matter.

T. Moyer: Would like to see a plan for mowing for the upcoming season. And a written plan to address any issues and the Water and Waste Water Plants

D. Wolfe: Congratulations on completing the 2020 Budget

T. Harper: Thank you to all for the effort and hard work in completing the 2020 Budget and resolving 2019 financial matters. Additionally wanted to remind all of the Pool Party July 11th This will be the 3rd year. Also the upcoming May 17th Pool fundraiser and thank Bay's Market for providing ½ of a Hog for the roasting.

C. Moyer: Nothing

Mayor Taylor: Remind everyone about support for the April 11th Easter Egg Hunt

T. Moyer Moved to Adjourn at 9:38pm

Anthony M. Taylor

Mayor

Lisa A. Burnworth

Fiscal Officer