

**Village of Eau Claire**  
**Monday, February 20, 2017**  
**Unapproved Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

Regular Council meeting called to order 6:30 PM by Virginia Gonzalez, Village President

Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** V. Gonzalez, K. Karn, J. Rice, T. Baker, R. Stanczyk L. Borkowski, M. Keesler, S. Foster, K. Arend.

Absent: None

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by J. Rice to approve the Agenda of February 20, 2017, Second by R. Stanczyk. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion:** by M. Karn to approve to the meeting minutes of the regular council meeting of 01/16/2017, second by T. Baker. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Visitors:** Dan Malkin, Larry & Donna Williams, Chief Charles Sherene, and Rob Callahan of PBT& EC Fire Department.

**Visitors Discussion:** Dan Malkin, licensed Plumber who lives in the Village has concerns about water meter installation & the company installing them. He states they did “shoddy” work on someone’s meter installation in the Village. SLC Meter Co. from Pontiac MI is doing the installing, they have installed all over the State. They are licensed, bonded installers. The installers stated he needed a pit, P.W. Super. M. Keesler will look into this matter as the Village wants to minimize pits for water meters as much as possible. He also had liability concerns. P.W. Supervisor M. Keesler will have the company Rep from SLC Meters come to town as well as the Village Plumbing Inspector at the same time to check on concerns.

Larry & Donna Williams - Discussion, L. Williams would like to join the Planning Commission as one more member is needed. Larry Williams appointed to a three year term on the Planning Commission by Village President V. Gonzalez February 20, 2017.

Chief C. Sherene – was present to give Police Dept. Incident Summary.

**Library Board Minutes:** Library Board Minutes of January, 2017 are available in the Clerk’s Office.

**Fire Department:** Incident Summary for January, 2017 available in the Clerk’s Office. Rob Callahan gave a quote of \$3,987.50 from Ibid Electric, Inc. to update the Village Bldg. Siren to sound automatically at Noon & 5 Pm and in the event of Tornado Warnings. Due to budgetary concerns the Fire Dept. is tabling this for now & may look into a siren for the Fire Station in the future.

**Building & Grounds:** Looking into more information about billing with other companies for the Merit Network high speed internet. This will be tabled until the March meeting where decision will have to made if the Village wants to proceed with a 5 year contract at \$2,356.00 annually & is not much more then the Village pays now for Uverse & backup/cloud care. A five year commitment is required with 20Mb of bandwidth to qualify for the free fiber installation a \$15,350.00 savings only available till March 30, 2017.

**Police Department:** - (0) Tickets and (4) Incidents were reported. Chief Sherene is looking into Business Safety Inspections with the Fire Chief, where once a year he will inspect all of the Village’s Commercial Businesses.

**Finance/Treasurer’s Report:** February 20, 2017. Motion by K. Karn, second by J. Rice to accept the Treasurers report as presented, all ayes. None opposed.

All Funds	1,079,566.85				
Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted	Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted
General	140,000.00	843,036.85	Sanitation		(1,084.92)
Major Streets		111,070.66	Sewer	33,020.00	50,668.61
Local Streets		3,922.84	Water	63,510.00	260,577.78
Municipal Streets		110,011.47			

**Payment of the Bills:** Motion by J. Rice, seconded by T.Baker to approve the payment of the bills as submitted in the amount of \$24,856.63. All ayes, motion carried.

**Budget/Budget Amendments:** There will be a special meeting to approve the 2017-2018 budget on February 27, 2017 at 5:30 PM at the Village Hall.

**Finance: Village closing of Dobberstein pole building** is on March 1, 2017 at 9:00 am. Virginia and Shawn must be present with a Bank Check. Village Electrical Inspector Ken Simpson said the building needs electric permit & a profession Electrician for installation of electric meter of its own as the current power comes from Farm Bureau's Bldg. The job will be bid out. Clerk to get final with closing costs so a check can be written.

**Village Audit:** is scheduled with Plante Moran for the week of April 17, 2017. Also a special audit for Act 51 state road money is required by every municipality this year, details still pending.

**Dental Bills:** PWS M. Keesler presented Dental Bills from 2016 in the amount of \$624.45. The HSA's & Dental coverage was removed when the BCBS of MI was renewed in Nov. 2015. The Village was trying to cut Insurance costs by 30%. Due to a misunderstanding PWS did not realize Dental coverage had been eliminated. For the 2017 BCBS renewal Dental Coverage was voted back in. A decision will be made at the Special Meeting on Feb. 27, 2017 regarding the bills.

**Administration:** John Dobberteen was hired as the Village Plumbing & Mechanical Inspector on 10-17-2016 but his contract wasn't signed. Contract has been signed. Fee's to remain split at 20/80.

**Water, Sewer, Solid Waste:** Question as to why the meter installation began now instead of April as originally planned. April was a target date as we were counting on a regular Michigan winter. The weather has been very good allowing for installations. The Village needed to have a "few" meters installed so we could begin set up & training on the new software. We were unable to get this into the Community Notice this month; we will have more info in the next Comm. Notice enclosed in monthly Utility Bills. SLC Meter Co. is a big company from Pontiac MI that has installed thousands of meters; with any business they have to do what is financially good for the company, so it did not make sense for them to come in & install a dozen or so meters & then return in April to finish the install. SLC Meter Co. installation team is licensed & bonded. Yellow hang tags were placed on residential door so that people could call at their own convenience to set up an appointment at their convenience. Everyone must call for an appointment and have the install team look at their water connections to determine if a meter goes into a basement or in some cases where homes are on cement slabs advice if a meter pit is needed. It is SLC's determination as to whether or not a meter goes into a basement or in a pit. Pits need to be minimized as they are an extra expense to the Village. Pink tags are final notices. Resolution R2015-4 outlines Rates, Fee's; Charges & Policies that was effective 9/21/2015 is available at the Village Hall during regular hours of operation. If appointments are not made & the team is not allowed into a residence service can be interrupted and additional fees incurred on your Utility Billing. No one will be charge metered rates until all meters are installed, software loaded & training completed. The Village will not charge any usage fee's for the first couple of months once all meters have been installed so that people will see how much water they are using and have a chance to fix any leaks or running toilets. The Village plans Fire Hydrant flushing in advance and there will be an allowance for additional water used to clear lines when this happens.

**Delinquent Utility Bills:** Delinquent Utility Bills will be moved to the property tax rolls the first part of May.

**Parks:** The Village was approved for the Walking Trails Grant but the state hasn't released any funds yet.

**Streets:** No new business.

**Equipment:** No new business.

**All other Business Brought before the Council:**

Motion to adjourn, K. Karn 8:19 pm.

Meeting minutes by Shawn Foster, Clerk