

Village of Eau Claire
Monday, July 17, 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, T. Baker, R. Stanczyk, L. Borkowski, J. Rice, M. Keesler, S. Foster, Chief C. Sherene.

Absent: None

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda with the exception of moving item E, 2 under administration, hiring of a code enforcer to the top of the agenda. Motion by K. Karn to accept the agenda with the changes, second by R. Stanczyk, All ayes, Motion carried.

Motion: by T. Baker to approve the regular council meeting minutes of 06/23/2017, second by J. Rice, All ayes. Motion carried.

Visitors: Shane Daniel, Berrien Springs Code Enforcer, Village Residents Stella & Wayne Wetkowski and Kent Wetkowski & his wife.

Visitor Discussion: Kent Wetkowski lives across the street from the old Silver Mills and has concerns regarding the Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance. He is concerned about safety and property values & smells. V. Gonzalez addressed their concerns and stated the Village has had 3 Council Meetings and a Public Hearing with little or no attendance and stated the need to attend more meetings and see educational information regarding Medical Marijuana; The new manufacturing business will not be open to the public and no dispensaries will be allowed to operate in the Village, the President & the council believe it would not be a good fit for the Village and several towns that surround us locally are allowing dispensaries that will enable patients to get their medicine. The old Silver Mills will be rehabilitated all the buildings will be fixed and the entire blighted area would be cleaned up. The Village would receive much needed income and in the future the new business will provide new jobs with good wages. They plan on being very nondescript, the entire area will be fenced in with no signage, they are required by the state to have their own 24/7 security and the state has a new task force team just for these businesses and the state will also monitor them 24/7 by camera.

Library Board Minutes: Library Board Minutes of July 10, 2017 are available in the Clerk's Office.

Fire Department: Incident Summary for May 17, 2017 available in the Clerk's Office.

Police Department: - (0) Tickets and (3) Incidents were reported. Chief Sherene stated that it was time to purchase a new battery for the defibrillator cost should be about \$200 to \$300, he will put in a purchase order for it. The Village received on bid on the 05 Crown Vic which was below the minimum bid. Motion by K. Karn to advertise the old squad car for \$1800.00, second by second by T. Baker, all ayes, motion carried.

Finance/Treasurer's Report: July 17, 2017. Motion by K. Karn, second by T. Baker to accept the Treasurers report as presented, all Ayes. None opposed.

All Funds	971,025.88				
Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted	Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted
General	140,000.00	163,118.42	Sanitation	0.00	-163.85
Major Streets		120,771.72	Sewer	33,020.00	62,655.67
Local Streets		709.09	Water	63,510.00	268,772.94
Municipal Streets		104,401.04			

Payment of the Bills: Motion by K. Karn, to approve the payment of the bills as submitted in the amount of \$46,456.63. Second by J. Rice, All Ayes, motion carried.

Administration:

Code Enforcer – Shane Daniel the Code Enforcer for the Village of Berrien Springs for the past 12 years attended the meeting and gave a brief out line of what he does as a code enforcer, how much time he puts in and how follow ups to notices are handled in Berrien Springs. He stated that his schedule at this time would not allow him to do Eau Claire. He suggested some alternatives to the Village hiring their own Code Enforcer like contacting the townships to see if their code enforcers can do it and bill the Village for it. He also said he could come and do a workshop with our Blight Committee and go over the forms he uses.

Audit: is almost complete and needs to be to the state by August 31, 2017. S. Foster to contact Rhonda at Plante Moran to see if the bank reconciliations she is doing for us is complete.

Parks: Discussion regarding school children possibly collecting bottle caps, such as the big ones on laundry detergent and other large caps to make benches to place along the walking trails. This will be discussed with the school to see if we can get community involvement; the company that makes the benches requires that school children be involved. Hermel Die Cast has already said they would store the bottle caps.

Water: There are some residences in the Village that need to have the water meters installed in meter pits due to either not having a basement or the way the waterlines are configured. About 90 meter pits are needed & Public works will need at least one temporary worker to help with the meter pits for hand digging & shoveling. S. Foster to contact some Temp. Work services to see if this can be done through a company.

Wellhead Protection: This is a required by the state and Wightman is currently working on this with M. Keesler.

Meter Readings: All Water Meters that did not require a meter pit have been installed and the data was added in BS&A system used for Utility Billing. We have now passed all the meter export tests and a trainer will be coming shortly to finish the training required for use of the drive by meter reader and uploading the reads. In the next month or so we will no longer have to estimate the current Commercial Accounts we have. Residents will not be charged usage until all meters are installed. Once we receive the new reader and the training we will be able to show residents their usage but will not charge for the usage in order for residents to see how much they are using and to see if anything in their homes needs attention, such as running toilets or dripping faucets. In cases where hydrants are flushed or other times when it is required for residents to run their faucets to clear the water there will be an allowance for that water used.

Streets: No new business.

Planning Commission: A Public Hearing was held at the Eau Claire District Library on July 12, 2017; regarding the Medical Marijuana Facilities Ordinance the Village is currently working on. The purpose of the hearing was for residents to voice their opinions or concerns or just ask questions. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the Journal Era 6/28/17, on the Village Website, in the Post Office, the Bank, Library, Big C Lumber, the Fruit Exchange, emails were answered as to when and where the Hearing was and the only 3 residents attended the Public Hearing two of which were spouses of the Planning Commission and V. Gonzalez who is the Village President but attended as a resident. Village residents are strongly encouraged to attend all meetings and public hearings to keep abreast of activities and projects and council decisions and give their input. The Village has had 3 Council meetings on this topic with almost no input from residents. See the Planning Commissions Notes for Public Hearing 07.12.2017 available on the Village website or copies may be obtained by stopping by the Village Hall. The Planning Commission will meet again on Tuesday July 25, 2017 at the Village Hall at 6:30 pm to make final adjustments to the ordinance.

Equipment:

No new business

Motion to adjourn, K. Karn 8.20.

Meeting minutes by Shawn Foster, Clerk