

VILLAGE OF BARODA
Council Meeting Minutes
Baroda Municipal Building
July 5, 2022
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Michael Price, Leonard Krone, Kathryn Strefling, Jodi Mattner, Mel Tollas, Treasurer Hurst, and Clerk Denton

Members Absent: Jack Lewis

Guests Present: Doreen Shults, Teri Freehling, Bob Blazo, and Bob Feickert

Council Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Price

I. Reports

- A. Treasurer Report- Treasurer Hurst reported the Village received \$92,557.22 in total of ARPA funds from the state. Treasurer Hurst recommended the council hear a proposal of spending up to \$30,000 to renovate and update the park to state standards. After a discussion, the council feels we need have an inspection done of the park to see what needs to be accomplished first. There was also discussion of what else the money can be used for around the Village later. Trustee Strefling filed a motion to bring the park up to code with understanding money left over can be used for equipment, second by Trustee Mattner. A roll call votes all ayes motion carries.
- B. Economic Development- No Report
- C. Committees- No Report
 - 1. Park- Swings need replaced, Trustee Strefling filed a motion to replace the swings with new colorful ones. Trustee Tollas seconded the motion. A roll call votes all ayes motion carries.
 - 2. Finance- No Report
 - 3. Clerks Info- Agenda messages Clerk Denton asked what the council would like on the agenda for messages to keep a meeting running smoothly and timely manner. Council agreed to allow the public to raise their hand to be called on and allowed to ask a question or state their opinion on the subject for no more than 2 minutes time. Trustee Tollas also mentioned having Presidents comments last to close out the meeting.
- D. Planning Commission- No Meeting

II. New Business –

- A. Michigan Gas Utilities- Michigan Gas utility needs an updated Village ordinance to adopt Michigan Gas as the franchise allowed the power, authority, and permission from the village to maintain proper Gas infrastructure. In the agreement it states a 30-year period as length of contract. After much discussion, the council felt this needed to be clarified and the subject was tabled to another meeting.

- B. Industrial Park Land Sale (Tim Noonan)- President Price reported the Berrien County Road Commission presented a second offer to buy the land on Menser dr. President Price talked to the lawyer and since the council voted to sell to Tim Noonan we are obligated to unless Mr Noonan backs out or is asked to. The council had discussion of what is best for the Village and if we can add any building stipulations on Mr Noonan to build in a certain time and will that clause be written in the purchase agreement. The county traffic if they bought was also brought up by Treasurer Hurst and how the roads would need more maintenance from the heavier trucks for what the county use would be. Trustee Tollas filed a motion to move forward with the sale to Tim Noonan with an addendum to the purchase agreement asking for a structure to be built within 2 years, Trustee Mattner second the motion. A roll call votes all ayes motion carries. Afterwards was discussion of the written ordinance and Trustee Mattner filing a motion to accept the amended and numbered Ordinance in final draft, and trustee Tollas second there was a roll call vote all ayes motion carries.

- C. Employee yearly Reviews- Clerk Denton and Treasurer Hurst both had their One-year reviews with the individuals hiring committee. Trustees Krone, Strefling, and Mattner reported on Treasurer Hurst and how they feel she is an asset to the village. The committee feel cost of living raise is not enough and recommended a dollar an hour raise. Trustee Tollas filed a motion to except Treasurer Hurst performance review with the dollar raise retro paid back to March 6, 2022, second by Trustee Strefling. A roll call votes all ayes motion carries. Clerk Denton review was done by Trustee Mattner, and Trustee Krone. In a previous meeting an audience member stated not to have Trustee Strefling apart of the interview for conflict of interest since Clerk Denton is her ex-husband of years past. Clerk Denton asked for the village to supply insurance at the year review instead of a raise, after council review of the Village handbook and discussion the council feels Clerk Denton should already be enrolled in the Village benefits package, with the hours worked, and would still deserve a .25 cent raise. Trustee Mattner filed a motion to a .25 cent raise to Clerk Denton, second by Trustee Tollas. There was a roll call vote with Trustee Strefling sustaining from vote, all ayes by the rest of council motion carries. After vote there was discussion of the benefits Clerk Denton is entitled to vacation pay, and holiday pay.

- III. Consent Agenda- A motion made by Trustee Krone, and second by Trustee Mattner to approve the consent agenda as amended. A roll call vote followed with all ayes motion carries.
 - A. Council Minutes – June 6, and June 21
 - B. Paying of Bills and Transfers - \$39,788.33
 - C. Correspondence-
- IV. Council Comments
 - A. President Comments- President Price presented Bob Feickert application for council member. Council discussed his application and listen to a couple questions presented to him. Trustee Strefling filed a motion to appoint Bob Feickert to the council position, second by Trustee Mattner. A roll call vote followed all ayes motion carries.
 - B. Council Member’s Comments – Trustee Krone was impressed with how the businesses help to clean up the Village after fireworks, Truste Strefling asks when the Hickory creek is planned on being cleaned Clerk Denton has not been notified of any major work. Trustee Tollas would like in the emails to change subject matter when the emails change, and we need to update signs at the park tennis courts for newer equipment with wheels.
- V. Audience Comments – Bob Blazo committed on the Fireworks display of fireballs being too close to people residents on how hot they were. He also mentioned a person went door to door to the houses close to the launch site to warn people before that the fireballs were going to be hot. Clerk Denton will discuss this at the next fireworks meeting. Terri Freehling attending the meeting to announce a meeting Thursday July 7 if anyone interested in attending. Doreen Schultz asked if the Village is interested in having a city-wide garage sale next year. There was discussion of when the event can take place, the council idea is to investigate neighboring cities dates and decide a decent period. Volunteers would be needed to get this event going and to make it great.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mike Denton

Meeting Adjourned by 9:15 pm

