

**VILLAGE OF BARODA**  
**Council Agenda**  
**Baroda Municipal Building**  
**October 2, 2017**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Bob Getz, Larry Nye, Ed Rath, Milt Sluder, Don Turney, Steve Jasper, Mona Himmelein, and Clerk Boehm

Members Absent: N/A

Guests Present: Rick Ast, Doreen Schultz, Steve Carlisle, Frank LaPierre

Council Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Getz. Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

- I. Audience Comments – Jessica Enget from the Lincoln Township Library came to introduce herself as the new director of the library. She reported that the library has completed their strategic plan for the future direction of the library and there will be a report out at the upcoming board meeting on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m. and the public is invited to attend. They will have an open house and meet and greet afterwards at 5:00 p.m.

- II. Reports

- A. Village Engineer – Inter-governmental agreement – The Baroda Township Board has requested an inter-governmental agreement as pertains to the water/sewer utilities. President Getz met with Steve Carlisle from Wightman to begin working on a draft. Steve Carlisle presented the draft to the Council for them to consider and review. The document will cover areas such as construction, installation and furnishing of services within the Township. It also addresses areas of rates and regulations, ordinances, and who is responsible for the financial aspect of these new services.

- The Township would like to have something concrete in place for the future growth and development of the area for new boards and councils that come in to office and are not familiar with existing services. They would like a good plan to use for those that move in to the area down the road.

- a. Frank LaPierre also presented two scenarios for future sewer cash flow to help fund the future capital improvements that will need to be done within the next 22 years. One option is a rate increase beginning in 2019 and continuing through 2040, which includes up to a 25% increase in 2032, but then eliminating the increases in 2035.

- The second option was a rate increase that stayed consistent at 3% but also included a \$900,000 bond. This would mean a smaller net cash flow and cost to the Village of over \$1M.

- We currently have a positive fund account balance, however the sewer rates have never been increased and are very low in comparison to other communities. Keeping up with the cost of living and cost of operations will keep us from getting behind the “8 ball” in the future when we need to make the necessary improvements.

- B. Economic Development – N/A

- C. Committees

- 1. Park – N/A

- 2. Finance – Budget Amendments – Treasurer Hammond presented budget amendments for General Fund add \$19,450; Expenses \$208,965; Major Streets expense increase by

\$200; Sewer income increase \$1,500; sewer expenses increase of \$71,900; water income increase of \$12,225, decrease expenses by \$9,400. A motion was made by Trustee Rath, seconded by Trustee Jasper to approve the amendments as presented. All ayes, motion carries.

D. Planning Commission – Trustee Rath had asked President Getz to have Clerk Boehm get examples of rental agreements and inspection agreements. They plan on having a meeting this month to work on those ordinance changes.

E. DDA

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

A. Zoning Permit Fees – Clerk Boehm presented an updated zoning permit application for approval. It was suggested by the building inspector (Ross Rogien) to spell out the fees on the form, which we had not done previously. Fences & signs will be \$10; all other will be \$20. A motion was made by Trustee Himmelein, seconded by Trustee Jasper to approve the fees. All ayes. Motion carries.

B. Trick or Treating - motion was made by Trustee Rath, seconded by Trustee Turney to keep trick or treating hours set from 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. on October 31<sup>st</sup> this year. All ayes, motion carries.

C. Tennis Court Bid – We needed to revisit the bid that the Council approved last month. It was somehow overlooked that there was a \$1,600 cost for power washing the surface, and also an option for filling the cracks with patch binder (either a non-warranted job of \$935; or a 2-year warranty for \$3,060 for additional crack repair). We have not done any repair work since they were installed.

The actual price of the repairs will be \$13,520. We have someone that is willing to make a donation to the court repair of \$2,000. The repairs should last for at least the next 15 years. A motion was made by Trustee Sluder, seconded by Trustee Himmelein. All ayes. Motion carries.

D. Best Practices Resolution – President Getz presented a resolution for the Village to join the Best Practices Committee for Berrien County. President Getz and Clerk Boehm attended the last meeting. It is very informative and shows inter-governmental support when applying for grant funds for our municipality. The Committee reviews best practices that they learn from one another, and join forces in creating a strong effort to study area governmental problems of mutual interest and increase cooperation among local branches of government. A motion was made by Trustee Turney, supported by Trustee Jasper. Roll call vote was taken:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Bob Getz	X		
Mona Himmelein	X		
Steve Jasper	X		
Larry Nye	X		
Ed Rath	X		
Milt Sluder	X		
Don Turney	X		

Motion Carried.

E. Citizen Planner Training – Clerk Boehm presented information regarding an online course to get certified for Citizen Planner. This is a great training for the planning commission and council; and a good opportunity to brush up on planning and zoning. If we are able to

do it as a group it would be more applicable and we can use real-life situations as discussion. The cost is \$275/person for those that would like to get certified. After some discussion, it was requested of Clerk Boehm to obtain a bit more information as to whether or not some people can just attend certain sessions without paying the fee and get back with the council. Thus far it appears that John Zelvis (Planning Commission) and Clerk Boehm would like to get certified. She will email them with the information.

We would like to get the course complete as quickly as possible. It is a 15-hour online course. Clerk Boehm mentioned doing a couple of evenings and a Saturday morning for two weeks so that the information doesn't get lost because it was too far spread out.

V. Consent Agenda - Motion by Trustee Rath, seconded by Trustee Jasper to approve the consent agenda items as presented. All ayes. Motion carries.

A. Council Minutes September 5, 2017

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Paying of Bills and Transfers - \$30,421.33

D. Correspondence

VI. Council Comments

A. President Comments – Chuck Trapp asked if we would be willing to get flags for all of the street lights on the streetscape, so we can have American flags flying for all of the holidays. After some discussion, it was agreed that we would go ahead with it.

a. The Enforcement Officer asked if we would like him to do a drive through of the Village once a week. After some discussion, it was decided that once a month would be fine. DPW Cochran can do the drive through for the mowing letters at this time.

b. President Getz gave Tony and Neal “kudos” for really buckling down on the water meters. They have been doing a great job. Clerk Boehm stated they are less than 100 away from being done.

B. Council Member's Comments – Trustee Turney asked about a new winery that is coming in to the old deli building. Apparently there was something on Facebook about “Chill Hill” opening a new tasting room. President Getz stated that there is a new tasting room that is supposed to open in April, however there is nothing concrete in place yet.

a. Clerk Boehm mentioned she will be out of the office this Thursday and Friday on vacation. Treasurer Hammond mentioned she will be at a conference next Monday-Wednesday.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Recorded by:

Tina Boehm  
Village Clerk