

VILLAGE OF BARODA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Village of Baroda Regular Council Meeting held on April 03, 2023.

President Michael Price called the council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Michael Price, President Pro-Tem Mel Tollas, Trustees: Jack Lewis, Jodi Mattner, Katie Strefling, Donna Ryan, Bob Feickert and Clerk Michael Denton

Absent: None

Also Present: Daniel Nitz, Amber Osha, Donnie Johnson, Christina Price, Konrad Schultz and Laurie Soul

Audience Comments:

Konrad Schultz of 1546 Pheasant Run Drive addressed the council about issues with potholes and drainage issues. President Price advised him that we are trying to find funding for these repairs. Konrad Schultz advised he would volunteer his time if needed.

Donnie Johnson of 9119 Second Street addressed the council about issues with hydrants with broken tops. Donnie Johnson offered his assistance with helping mark the ones that need repairs for them.

NEW BUSINESS:

Township Clerk-

Addressed that there should be boundaries on when direction is given to Village Employees. Discussion took place and determination was that all direction should come from President Price.

Farmers Market in the Village Parking Lot-

Motion Made to Increase Peddlers Permit, *Moved by Mel Tollas, 2nd by Katie Strefling Ayes, 7; Nays, 0 Motion carried.

Michigan Emergency Management Act (Berrien County)-

Clerk Denton addressed that we need to assign people for contacts. Clerk Michael Denton Primary Liaison, Donna Ryan and Michael Price-Back-up. *Moved by Katie Strefling, 2nd by Jodi Mattner. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0 Motion carried.

President Pro-Tem Training- Mel Tollas made request that Michael Price give her training on his job duties to ensure if there was a time when he was out of the office, or she needed to step in to fill in for him she would be aware of his duties.

Music in the Park- Michael Price agreed to volunteer to put up signs for each event.

Mel Tollas and Donna Ryan agreed to volunteer for June and July.

Katie Strefling and Jodi Mattner agreed to volunteer August 27, 2023.

Katie Strefling asked if the Village could reach out to businesses for donations for Music in the park. Letter to be drafted and sent to council for review.

Support to add Food Truck to this event.

DPW Workers-

*Moved by Mel Tollas, 2nd by Jack Lewis to increase DPW wages by \$2.00 per hour for Andrew Spitzke and Grant Bly. Effective Date April 1st, 2023. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Mel Tollas- Yes

Jack Lewis- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Yes

Katie Strefling- Yes

Donna Ryan- Yes

Bob Feickert-Yes

Michael Price- Yes

Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber Dues-

***Moved** by Mel Tollas 2nd by Jack Lewis to discontinue our membership with Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber. Ayes, 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Accidental Fund renewal Par Plan-

Agreed to renew/moved into paying of the bills, will shop rates before 2024 renewal.

Micro Brew-

Daniel Nitz requested approval from the Council to give permission to microbrew and add additional products to Chill Hill Winery.

***Moved** by Mel Tollas, 2nd by Donna Ryan to accept application for Chill Hill Micro Brew. Ayes. 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried. Daniel Nitz advised that he wanted to donate \$250 towards Music in The Park, he also wanted to donate \$500 to the township for the Fireworks.

REPORTS:

Treasurers Update- Plante Moran suggested to hire for completion of Bank Reconciliation. Addressed due to USDA Loan we must have audit one time per year due to this.

***Moved** by Katie Strefling, 2nd by Mel Tollas to hire Plante Moran to complete bank reconciliation. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Mel Tollas- Yes

Jack Lewis- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Yes

Katie Strefling- Yes

Donna Ryan- Yes

Bob Feickert- No

Michael Price- Yes

Deputy Treasurer Amy Covington is asking for guidance about what the Council is requesting from her for her position. Hiring Committee for Treasurers- Donna Ryan was appointed to this position. Committee now is Mel Tollas, Kattie Strefling, and Donna Ryan.

Review Committee for Office Staff- Mel Tollas, Jodi Mattner, and Donna Ryan

COMMITTEES-

Park-Park Equipment- Mel Tollas presented quotes that she was able to obtain for new equipment. Determined we have used \$2,239 of ARPA money of the \$30,000 that was allocated to park improvements. Determined we needed to table this until more information could be obtained.

Finance-Cancel Zoom- *Moved by Katie Strefling, 2nd by Donna Ryan to cancel Zoom membership. Ayes. 7; Nays, 0. Motion carried.

Clerks Info-Schedule Clerk Review- Meeting with Michael Price and Review Committee Friday, April 7th, 2023, to go over any concerns in reference to Clerk Michael Denton's review, review Scheduled for 9 a.m. Monday, April 10th, 2023.

Planning Commission- Jodi Mattner will get information to Brad Mattner Planning Commission Chair for next meeting.

***Moved** by Katie Strefling seconded by Mel Tollas to pay Planning Commission Chair Brad Mattner once amount is determined. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Mel Tollas- Yes

Jack Lewis- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Abstained

Katie Strefling- Yes

Donna Ryan- Yes

Bob Feickert- Yes

Michael Price- Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Minutes – March 6, 2023

Paying of the Bills- \$27,715.85

Discussion about insurance and family portion amounts being paid, Michael Price advised he was going to be off insurance by end of April 30, 2023. More discussion about future options to be checked into.

HSA Contribution amount questioned. Determined that we needed to research HSA Contribution and where previous checks came out from/out of funds.

Correspondence- none

***Moved** by Jodi Mattner, 2nd by Katie Strefling to approve Consent Agenda and paying of the bills. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote:

Mel Tollas- Yes

Jack Lewis- Yes

Jodi Mattner- Yes

Katie Strefling- Yes

Donna Ryan- Yes

Bob Feickert- Yes

Michael Price- Yes

COMMENTS

Council Member's Comments- Jodi Mattner questioned why the Township Treasurer was opening our envelopes out of the drop box that were addressed to Village. She voiced that our mail should only be opened by Village employees.

Jack Lewis questioned replacing the trees that were removed. Jack Lewis is going to go forward with getting information about trees.

Jodi Mattner suggested we investigate someone to write a policy and procedures manual.

Mel Tollas requested that we create an email for Amy Covington as Deputy Treasurer.

Audience Comments- Amber Osha member of audience asked that in future if applications are placed out for public to review that their private information be blacked out in the future.

Donnie Johnson gave an update that Chris Burch is Chief of Fire Department, and he is the assistant Chief and disclosed of other job assignments/titles. We will get the website updated.

President's Comments- Michael Price wanted to know if we wanted to have flowering hanging baskets, Christina Price offered to do them for free. Agreement to create water system and hang the donated baskets. Donna Ryan offered the option of free dirt.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:58 p.m. by President Michael Price

Mel Tollas

Pro-Tem President with additional job
Duties assigned as Village Clerk

Michael Price

Village President