

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
April 8, 2021

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Jon Book. The following Trustees were present; Dave Doty, Mike Jennings, Greg McLain, Raven Russell, and Brian Gill. Jeannie Ruppert joined in by phone.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2021 regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve the "Statement of Income and Expenses", seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gill to approve the "Banks and Checks Journal", seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Public – Matt Flood ask about an item listed on the agenda.

Donation for Celebration Committee – The Committee presented a letter concerning donations. The date has been changed to July 2 and 3 as not to interfere with surrounding communities' events for the 4th of July events. In the past \$1200 from the utility departments has been set aside to help with fireworks and \$400 donated for an ad. They have several people donating again. A motion was made by Trustee Doty to donate \$1200 for Fireworks to the Celebration Committee and \$500 to the silver level donation to come from the Utility fund, seconded by Trustee Jennings. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Electronic Recycling – Manger Risley made contact with them Tuesday. He did mention that we could take in the items for a couple of days and then contact them when we're ready to have them pick them up. It was also mentioned for us to go get the crates and return them. This could offset some of the costs. Tentative dates were from June 7 – 11, 7am – 4pm, Monday thru Friday and then 12th from 8 till noon. A motion was made by Trustee Doty to set June 7-11 & 12th for an electronics recycling charges \$10 for large TVS 36" and above, and \$5 for other electronics, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Policy for Ordinance Fines/Complaints – This was for updating the current ordinance as for fines and to form a committee to hear the appeals. With the current climate, it would be best for the Village to update and bring current the ordinances and codes concerning these in case they get challenged. It was discussed to have the Police Committee be the ones to hear any appeals. The Village Attorney, Dave Reimer will work on this for next month.

Greg Gustafson – Mr. Gustafson was here to update the Board on the progress of our water project. He has all the forms ready for the pre-application, the formal response to be accepted by Rural Development. The PER has been approved. He is working on the specification and bidding documents now. With the delays, this will be a late summer/fall 2021 or spring 2022 project. The Board needs to consider the details of the colors and lettering of the water tower. Once Rural Development approves the paperwork, it will then go out to contractors, collect bids, have a bid opening, then the Board will have a decision to make. Along with this will be the watermain project which will have to go to EPA and Rural Development.

Special Liquor License for Celebration Committee – Committee presented their paperwork. They have called the insurance company and it is in the works. The set up is pretty much the same as previous years. A motion was made by Trustee Gill to approve the special liquor license for the celebration committee for July 2 and 3, 2021, seconded by Trustee Jennings. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

2021 Sidewalk Project – Streets/Alleys committee met to discuss the areas for the 2021 sidewalk repair list. Trustee Doty presented a list of sidewalks to replace to the Board. MFT funds allotted were \$15,000. For this list, the total would be \$18,328. Trustee Doty made a motion to proceed with the 2021 sidewalk repair list items 1,2, and 4 plus additional patching areas under Village Manager Shannon Risley's discretion, not to exceed the \$15,000 MFT maintenance costs, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Doug Ryherd to do Patch Work for the Village – We have a lot of pot holes right now and the guys have been very busy with the boring crews that have been in town. There was money allotted for patch work and to have Doug Ryherd do this would help the guys out tremendously. Streets/Alleys was thinking about 30 hours worth of work. \$7500 has already be allotted in MFT for patching. Consensus of the Board was to move forward with this.

Purchase of New Taser for Police Dept - Chief Nichols joined in by phone. The cost for a new taser is approx. \$1200. This would be so he and Officer Feldkamp would be carrying the same model. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to purchase a new Taser for the police dept. not exceed \$1400, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Jeff Taylor/High Peaks Agreement - Trustee McLain contacted Mr. Taylor concerning this. Mr. Taylor is retaining ownership of the building. No action is needed.

Clean Up Day - Trustee Jennings has had several people asking if the Village was going to have a clean up day again. Last year we had one with so many people staying home due to COVID. There was a concern that this would put a strain on our village workers. This will be tabled until the Fall.

Clyde Hicks Utility Bill - Mr. Hicks lived on West Main St. He has passed away and left a utility bill unpaid. The family has run into financial issues with the sale of the house to help pay for unpaid bills. The family has asked the Village if they would be willing to wave the final bill of \$179.19. The Board was concerned with setting a precedent for future happenings. It was mentioned that his meter deposit would cover this amount if he has not received this back yet. No action was taken.

May Board Meeting – There is a conflict with a community event for the May board meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Russell to move the regular May meeting up one day to Wednesday, May 12th at 7pm, seconded by Trustee McLain. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Reports - were given from; Shannon Risley, Streets/Alleys and Chief Nichols

Correspondence – letter from the USDA for the water project.

Meeting Before the Next Meeting –

Utilities

April 27th @ 6pm

*utility rates

Finance

April 27th @ 6:30 pm

*employee compensation

A motion was made by Trustee Russell to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Russell to enter back into Open Session, seconded by Trustee Gill. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee McLain as policy for any village employee who contracts COVID to pay them up to 2 weeks additional sick pay, seconded by Trustee Gill. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

With no other business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Russell and seconded by Trustee McLain. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie McLain, Clerk

Village President