

**Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on December 13th 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Chimino at 6:30pm with the following present:

Trustee Michael Fleming
Trustee Emily Marble
Trustee Paul Robinson
Trustee Todd Cargill

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale, Eric Wies, and George Sardou.

Approval of Bills

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee Cargill. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 8th, 2023 was made by Trustee Marble and seconded by Trustee Robinson. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor

Grants

- **Consolidated Funding Application.** A park grant for improvements to Hickory Park was submitted in July. We have been notified that we were not awarded this grant. They received 197 eligible applications through the CFA requesting over \$73.5 million. With only \$26 million available for distribution, not all eligible projects could be funded. The village will continue to pursue this grant on a yearly basis.
- Empire State Development- A grant was submitted on October 27th. This grant, if awarded, would greatly offset the cost of our electric substation's replacement/upgrades. No response currently to report.
- Go Art Community Arts Grant (REACH) The village has applied for funding for summer concerts to be held in Hickory Park during the 2024 summer season. We await notification of our request.
- NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation-The village has received an engineering planning grant in the amount of \$50,000 to deal with inflow and infiltration of the wastewater system.
- Summer Recreation Program grant-paperwork has been submitted to the County for the 2024 summer recreation program in the amount of \$3,150.00.

Miscellaneous

- A new lease has been drafted by our attorney to replace the expired lease with NORTERA FOODS, who own the property where our electric department facility is located. This proposed 50-year lease was approved at the November 8th, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting. We are now waiting for NORTERA management to sign off on the lease.
- The annual Tree Lighting ceremony was held on December 4th. Approximately 300 parents and children gathered for the festivities. Thank you to all who made this event possible.

- Genesee County Legislature voted to give a voluntary distribution to municipalities in the county. The Village of Bergen received \$15,520.00 through this allocation.
- Genesee County Health Department is offering free radon test kits. I have arranged to have them available for disbursement at the village office. There is no charge for the test kit.
- Tree and Park committee met on 12/6 to discuss past, present, and future plans for the parks.

DPW

- Winter operations are in full swing.
- I would like to welcome Peter Depuy as our newest employee. Peter has replaced Zach Kuter who took employment in Churchville. Peter is a village resident and sure to be a great asset to our village.

SEWER

- No mechanical issues at the plant to report currently.

Electric

- Linemen attended safety class on December 4th in Fairport.
- Military banners were taken down for the season and given to the American Legion to store.
- Christmas decorations are in place for the holiday season.
- National Grid's scheduled electric shutdown of our system on November 14th went well with needed repairs being accomplished in a timely manner.

Administrator

Sewer

- The generator for the Gibson Street lift station is still awaiting RG&E to install a meter so it can be operational.
- The State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit was submitted to the DEC after review from Village Engineer Eric Wies.
- We received the first half of the Engineering Planning Grant funds in the amount of \$25,000.

DPW

- The old Ford F-550 is back from Thru-Way Spring after being repaired. The salter and plow will be installed, then I will put it on Auctions International.
- Our new DPW employee passed the background check and pre-employment drug test. He is doing a great job and fitting in well.
- Park bathrooms have been winterized.

Electric

- Sixteen transformers are being ordered for inventory and the Quicklee's Convenience store project. They will take approximately 35 weeks to receive.
- The Linemen have been using the new GPS system to record poles and inventory. They have done about half the village so far.
- The bucket truck is at Regional in Henrietta for repairs.
- Performed mutual aid for Holley to replace a broken pole.

Office

- Barb is working on the Annual Financial Report and the Town's Audit.
- Rene submitted the Tree City recertification application; it cleared the regional review and is now under state review.
- We were contacted by the Byron-Bergen chapter of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) they would like to do a holiday light contest in the Village. The winners will receive a \$75, \$50 and \$25 visa gift card.

Miscellaneous

- Trustee Marble and I completed and submitted the grant paperwork for the 2024 summer recreation program to the County on November 30th. We asked for \$3,150.
- I posted a notification in the Batavia Daily News for the upcoming March election and participated in a webinar with NYCOM regarding elections. I learned that it is not necessary to pass a resolution every year to abolish registration day or to declare there to be only one election district. If in the future it is decided to have a registration day or more than one election district, a resolution should be passed to make the change.
- I submitted the NYS Highway Lane Miles report.
- An abandoned car was in front of TK Flooring for over a week. I had it towed on December 5th.
- Bids for refuse and septic tank pumping will be posted in January.

Approval of Officer Reports

A motion was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee Fleming to approve the officer reports. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Trustee Concerns

None

New Business

Park Grant

Mayor Chimino reported that the Village did not receive the Park Grant. There were 197 applications requesting a total of \$73.5 million, only \$26 million was available through the grant. He said we would apply for it again next year.

Bergen Fire Department Budget

Bergen Volunteer Fire Department President Eric Wies presented the Board with the 2024 budget. The total increase was just \$1,487.00 with the Village's portion decreasing \$103.59. He also reviewed the finances of the department.

A motion was made by Trustee Cargill and seconded by Trustee Robinson to approve the Bergen Fire Department's 2024 Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

None

Privilege of the Floor

None

Executive Session

A motion to enter executive session to discuss the union contract was made by Trustee Marble and seconded by Trustee Fleming. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 7:09pm.

A motion was made by Trustee Marble and seconded by Trustee Robinson to exit executive session. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

The Board exited executive session at 8:20pm

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Robinson and seconded by Trustee Marble to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator