

Village of Birchwood
101 N. Main Street
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The Regular Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting of the Village of Birchwood was held on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022, at 6:00p.m. at the Birchwood Village Hall, 101 N Main St, Birchwood, WI 54817.

Minutes

Call meeting to order (Meeting is recorded)

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call by Clerk: Present-B. Milligan, B. Boatman, R. Vangilder, P. Parkos, M. Manning

Also Present: Linda Zillmer, Deanna Davis, Bob and Lisa Longacre, Steve Dulan, Amanda Reed

Public Notice: Posted at the Birchwood Post Office, Village Hall, Gary's Grocery and Village Website.

Police Report –Adam reported the fiber is up and running. Crime report given. Adam assisted with a drug bust in Sawyer County. The squad car was serviced with tire rotation and oil change. The squad is also being repaired due to a deer hit. He updated on the new squad. Adam is working with the county to get transport costs down. We invoiced Birkie for Adam's services. Edgewater will also be invoiced. He is working on a list of people that need to clean up in the spring. They are also working on a school emergency planning team. Due to the slick roads, the sign at Main and D was taken out by a Washburn County vehicle.

Public Works Report – Tucker reported they've been doing lots of snowplowing. He wanted to thank Ron for covering for him while he was on vacation. He heard from quite a few people around town he did a good job. Sewer plant numbers spiked again. Up about 10%. This seems to always happen this time of year. He is wondering if someone is getting rid of waste in town or if someone is dumping? He has spoken to Lon from DNR about this. He is waiting on CTL numbers to see what they are. Wise and Euclid had problems with freezing, so we currently have a mandatory trickle for those residents. This has caused a raise in water pumping. Due to the credit card problem, he will get the new chemicals ordered. 100 gallons at \$6-8 per gallon. He figures we will be eventually using a gallon a day. He also doesn't think the cost will be as high as MSA thought. Ron's signs came in and he's been working on that. Paul stated he spoke to Ron about a V plow for the black truck. This needs to be in the budget. Paul recommended shopping around for this and getting a couple of bids for the board. Paul will get a phone number for Ron to call for a bid. We should get the quote in September for a more accurate price.

Committee Reports- Nick Nelson from MSA gave an update on the Wellhouse improvement project. Plans and specs will be submitted to the DNR in the next couple of weeks. Bids will then be put out. He also gave an update on funds available to municipalities. The DOT has additional funds through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. He feels the STP Local program could be a good fit for the Village. These programs are usually a better fit for large projects. MSA could assist the Village to evaluate if we have projects that could benefit from it. There is also an anticipated DNR Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Fund program and a USDA Rural Utility Service program. No details are available yet. MSA is monitoring these potential funding sources too see if they could help the Village. These could be a help if the second well project gains traction. Feb 2023 is the next solicitation for the STP Local program.

Correspondence –None

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes per person)

Linda Zillmer addressed the board regarding item # 4. It was clarified that the property is the 9.6 acres currently rented out. She stated that when TID 2 was created, Birchwood received grant funds for this. She believes that the site is supposed to be used for businesses coming into the Village. She feels there needs to be a developer's agreement for this. Item # 6- LZ stated that the conditional use permit at the campground limited the number of fire pits. She feels this may impact residential neighbors. She also would like to know how many sites are at the campground.

The meeting is open to the public and is handicapped accessible.

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Discussion/Action Items (No public comments allowed):

1. Current agenda
 - a. Approve March 8th, 2022, agenda- Motion by M. Manning, 2nd by P. Parkos to approve current agenda. Carried 5-0
2. Approve Meeting Minutes
 - a. - Motion by P. Parkos, 2nd by M. Manning to approve February 8th, 2022, Regular Board of Trustee meeting minutes- Carried 5-0
3. Financials
 - a. Motion by R. Vangilder, 2nd by P. Parkos to approve February 2022 Bills, Payroll, and acceptance of Treasurer's Reports- Carried 5-0
4. Village of Birchwood Land Tax ID# 29505 Property ID 65-106-2-37-10-25-5-05-002-001010
 - a. Discussion on possible sale of Village property -Rocky updated the board on the property location and that we have been leasing it to Paul Borofka for farmland. The yearly rent has been \$351.00. We are currently holding the check from Borofka until after this meeting. Rocky has been approached by several businesses who have expressed interest in purchasing the property. This was to be the industrial park. There is no water or sewer there. The business that expressed interest in the property would like to put large storage units in that could accommodate taller items such as RV's, etc. Manning asked what would be entailed in selling it. Tucker said the water comes in off of Knapmiller and spoke about the possible route of the water and sewer lines if we build the new well in that area. The closest hydrant would be at the end of Timber Bays driveway. Manning stated he wasn't against selling; he just wants to make sure it is all done correctly. A. Beffa questioned whether splitting the parcel would be another option. Motion by R. Vangilder 2nd by P. Parkos to send the possibility of selling the 9.76 acres instead of renting it to Borofka this year to the Plan Commission Committee. If this takes a while, we will rent it out to Borofka this year. Carried 5-0
5. Masonite
 - a. Discuss possible sale of fire protection pump house-Per Rocky's request, Tucker gave the background of pump house. The pump is exclusively used for fire protection for the mill and is over 50 years old. The contract was made years ago and has never been updated or changed. In 2019, we made an offer to Masonite to buy the pump for \$1.00. The Village had been doing maintenance on this. Originally, the Village didn't have enough pressure through our water mains to supply fire protection for their sprinkler system. At the current time, the Village can accommodate their protection needs. Ahrens has been doing updates on this. Masonite's insurance company has been requiring different upgrades. In other parts of Wisconsin, these pumps have been bought by the companies. Tucker is attending a meeting at the Mill with the insurance company tomorrow morning around 8:00. Paul will attend with Tucker. Tucker would like to offer it for \$1.00. Due to the fact that the mill is paying for the repairs and updates, he feels the Mill would benefit from owning it. Rocky stated that the Village is not responsible for paying for the insurance companies requests. It does not connect to our water system. Tucker stated we are also paying other expenses such as heat, fuel, and insurance for the pump house. Motion by Vangilder 2nd by Parkos to put the offer in to sell the pumphouse to Masonite for \$1.00. Carried 5-0
6. RV Park-Steve Dulian-501 Wise Rd
 - a. Request for individual fire pits at RV sites-Dulian reviewed prior minutes stating that he was told he could ask for individual fire pits at a later date. He presented his letter from Ken George, Fire Chief, stating that he had no objections to individual fire pits. Steve went over the rules and regulations that would be enforced for the pits. He believes that less pits would result in too many people around the pits and also increase noise levels. He stated that other campgrounds in the area have individual pits and have no problems. The campground has 2 fire hydrants nearby. There are also no neighbors that would be impacted. He plans to have fire extinguishers in 4 locations on the Campground. There are 44 campsites and 1 storm shelter. Rocky stated we have firepits at Doolittle. Manning brought up that Steve was to go by the same rules as Longacre's campground. Longacre stated they have no need or urge to put in individual firepits at this time. Rocky read the information from the ATCP 79.22 which states that a campfire shall be contained with a campfire ring and located a minimum of 5 ft away from all camping

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units, building structures and motor vehicles. Zillmer stated this would be a condition of the conditional use permit and would be a modification and would need to go through the conditional use process to allow for the change. L. Longacre stated that any changes they ever requested were just done by the Board by an amendment to the conditional use permit. Manning wondered whether this should be amended. It was agreed that Dulian has followed state statutes and Village ordinances. Firepits will need to be secured, so they can't be moved. All state statues and Village ordinances must be followed. Motion by Milligan 2nd by Parkos to amend the original conditional use permit to allow individual fire pits at each campsite at the campground at 501 Wise Rd. In favor -Milligan, Boatman, Vangilder, Parkos Opposed-Manning Carried 4-1

Village Credit Card

- b. Discussion regarding recent card problems-A. Beffa ran through the problems we've had since John Depoister passed away. The credit card was under John's name and all cards were closed when he passed. Everyone lost access to their card. Our new card is under Vangilder's name and if something happened that he is no longer on the Board, we would have the same situation happen. The bank is working on getting our points transferred to the new card. Due to Rocky being primary on the account, the clerks have no access to information about the card or account. Rocky doesn't want to be responsible and liable for the Village credit card.
- c. Discuss other card options-Dairy State Bank offers a Municipal credit card. Motion by Vangilder, 2nd by Parkos to start the process of applying for Municipal credit card through Dairy State Bank. Carried 5-0

7. Diamond Maps

- a. Discuss purchase of Cloud-based GIS/Mapping for municipalities to map sewer/water infrastructure and track maintenance. Price is \$20.00 per user per month- Tucker gave an overview of this system. This would make it easier for him to mark water and sewer lines, etc. Ron would be able to have his roads, signs, etc. in this system. Everything would be computerized. MSA also has this system, but Tucker feels the Diamond Maps system would be better for the Village needs at this time. Motion by Parkos 2nd by Milligan to approve purchase of Diamond Maps. Carried 5-0

8. Operator's License

- a. Motion by Vangilder 2nd by Parkos to approve Operator's License for Paige Davis-upon successful completion of her Responsible Beverage Server training. Carried 5-0

9. East Hills Subdivision

- a. Realtor and buyer concerns: Deanna Davis and Amanda Reed spoke to the Board regarding the following concerns. Is a slab an option instead of a frost wall/basement? Some of the other duplexes in that area are only on a slab. Reed expressed concern over the extra cost of a basement in regard to her budget. Zillmer went through the reason for the covenant which was to ensure a standard of housing for the community and to provide for the tax base. Daryl Dostal (zoning administrator) was called to answer questions. He addressed the question of a slab vs a basement. Per Daryl- by code and the state -you can have a slab. Reed stated she didn't have a problem with any of the other covenant rules. She is interested in Lot #4. Deanna will be advertising on the radio as well. She would like to do an open house event the 2nd or 3rd week of May. She has lenders and other people that will be involved. Deanna will work with Ashley on this along with any permits for street closing, etc. that may be needed.
- b. Offers (if any) -None at this time

10. Closed Session -if applicable-None

- a. Pursuant to 19.85(1)© and 19.85 (1)(b) WI statute which, if discussed publicly, would likely have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person(s) referred to in such data.

11. Open Session-if applicable-None

- a. Matters discussed in closed session

12. Adjournment- Motion by Milligan 2nd by Parkos to adjourn. Carried 5-0

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