

Village of Byron  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
July 13, 2015

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Brunell
- II. Pledge of Allegiance led by President Brunell
- III. Roll Call – Present: Miller, Orr, Cole, Bessenbacher, Brunell--Absent: Berecz
- IV. Approval of Agenda-Motion to approval with the addition of D., E., F., and G.:
  - D.)DPW contract by Brunell
  - E.) Clerk appointment by Bessenbacher
  - F.) Sidewalks by Miller
  - G.)Use of DPW vehicle
- V. Approval of minutes- Cole moved, Besenbacher second approval of May 11, 2015 regular meeting-All Ayes, no Nays; absent; Berecz Approved. Miller moved Cole second to approve the June 22, 2015; Emergency Meeting- Voice vote; All Ayes, no Nays; absent; Berecz Approved.
- VI. Public comments-were made by: Robin McNier- Carolyn Mullaly-Shirley Riley-Pam Ebner-Marlene Pierce-All discussed disappointment in how the cemetery has been maintained in the last 3 months this year. Marlene Pierce was concerned about someone digging behind her grave stone.
- VII. Routine Monthly Reports
  - Treasurers Report – Treasurer was not read- question about the Cemetery total. Cash Report to stand pending audit.
  - DPW – Report accepted as presented.

Uniforms needed, Brunell suggested that we approve ordering T-shirts in safety green for the summer to keep cost down. They could also be used for DDA events or by the police or in the future. Miller asked what was the difference on the safety vest cost vs. T's. Brunell stated that she would get back with that information at the next council meeting.
  - Police- No printed report presented

Brunell presented retirement letter received by Chief Sampey, it was noted that it had been brought to her attention that a private meeting was held -Miller moved, Bessenbacher second to accept the retirement for Sampey to be effective 8/10/2015. It was noted that that this may not be a legal expenditure because it is a gift. Miller stated that he would personally reimburse the village if it was not legal to buy. Voice vote-All Ayes, no Nays. Approved. Motion to purchase a retirement badge (not to exceed cost of \$55.00) pending it being a legal expense. and clear Mr. Sampey's personnel record of any negative actions made by Miller, second by Bessenbacher; Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved
  - Commissioner – Root gave a brief report-commission approved 5 deputies to be back on the road at a cost of \$85,000.00. Moving forward with a PT coordinator.
  - DDA-Rob reported on the last DDA meeting.

Two speakers were at the last meeting Mike Smith from MDOT to discuss possible grant opportunities. Also Katie Smith Paula W. from Laingsburg to discuss how to run a low to moderate income survey. He discussed the canoe launch and entertainment tent for Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Cemetery – Hugh reviewed the cemetery report. *OK 8/11/15 per meeting 8/10/15*

There was much discussion regarding the resignation of Matt Misner. Brunell presented documentation to discredit the accusations contained in his letter that was sent for his resignation after his no-show-no call in for 5 days.

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Planning –No report given by Chairperson Prestonise. Brunell addressed the questions regarding Hanson water meter-there are two on the building one inside and one outside. It was hooked up all the time.

VIII. Unfinished Business-None

IX. New Business-

- A. Miller moved, second by Cole to change service providers as recommended by President Brunell for all of the Municipal buildings, this would result in an annual savings to the village of approximately \$3000.00. ; Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz.
- B. Miller moved, Bessenbacher to table the discussion for the BAS sewer bill till the end of the meeting and possibly go into closed session. Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz.
- C. Open Positions Treasurer/Cemetery
  1. Mary Ketchum applied for Treasurer position-Brunell stated she came highly recommended by the Village Auditor and could start immediately and has much background in municipality administration.
  2. Les Gray applied for the lawn mowing-Brunell stated that he also came highly qualified, has a degree as an Arborists and could start immediately.
- D. Miller moved, Bessenbacher second to place an ad in the paper to run starting Wed. and with a submission date of July 24 @ 5:00PM where all applicants can be interviewed, police to run background checks on all applicants interviewed before hiring them and to schedule a Special meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved.
- E. Miller moved, Prestonise second, to have Mike Granger from DPW mow the cemetery until the council hires someone new and to pay him form the general fund. Brunell questioned why we would incur the extra expense with the chance of. Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved
- F. Miller moved, Prestonise seconded to maintain the DPW contract as written with the following changes Replace the 80/20 split effective March 1, 2015. . Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved
- G. Clerk Position- it was noted that it was a 2 year appointment. John stated that it would be effective on the hire date.
- H. Sidewalks: Miller wants us to run an ad for bids to replace sections from the bank to end of the existing building.
- I. DPW vehicle use-Bessenbacher asked why the pickup truck couldn't be used for events to haul barricades. Brunell explained to Bessenbacher that it could be used. The events for the upcoming weekend (Family Fun Day) was not a village sponsored event. Gormley reiterated the information and verified.

X. Approval of Bills-No bills presented to approve

XI. Council Comments-Cole presented the revised park agreement with the indemnify clause added for approval.

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XII. Public Comments-no public comments

- A. Miller moved, Prestonise second to go into closed session to discuss the written legal opinion of counsel of 6-13-15, regarding the school and the sewer bill. Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved.
- B. Miller moved, Bessenbacher second to exit closed session. Roll call vote- Ayes; Orr, Cole, Prestonise, Bessenbacher, Miller and Brunell. Absent; Berecz. Approved

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

Maureen 8/11/15  
Clerk

K. Brunell  
President