

Village of Byron  
Special Council Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm by President Kit Brunell

President led Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Present: Bessenbacher, Cole, Miller, Prestonise, Brunell. Burack Absent. One vacant seat.

Others Present- Marsha Reed, Clerk, Rob Vandemark, DDA Chairman, and Jessica Woods

Approval of Agenda-Prestonise wants letter E, Voting on President Pro-Tem, added to the agenda Cole moved, Prestonise seconded to approve the agenda. With addition of President Pro-Tem vote. Voice vote – All Ayes. 1 Absent. Carried.

New Business- Vacant Trustee Seats: 2 letters of interest received, Jessica Woods and Duncan Orr. Jessica Woods introduced by Brunell. Brunell asked if any Trustees had questions. Miller asked Woods how long she lived in Byron. Woods responded 5 going on 6 years. Prestonise motioned to put Orr in vacant seat, Miller seconded. Roll Call: Ayes, Bessenbacher, Miller, Prestonise. Nay: Cole and Brunell. Carried

Brunell submitted letter of resignation and key. Burack arrived at 7:11 pm. At that time no one knew who was going to run the meeting. I, Marsha Reed, raised my hand and said that according to Township Clerk, Sharon Granger, I should take over the meeting. I said please continue and Cole was asked to take the chair and refused, Bessenbacher said she would run the meeting but, did not want the Pro-Tem job. Burack and Miller also refused the seat. No Action was taken until Jeremy Root, candidate for County Commissioner and audience member stated that the resignation needs to be accepted before the meeting could move forward. Miller moved to accept Brunell's resignation, Burack seconded. Roll Call: Ayes-Burack, Bessenbacher, Cole, Miller, and Prestonise. Nay-Cole. Carried.

At this time Jessica Woods left the meeting.

Office Computer and Server: Burack stated that she had not received any more quotes. Miller motioned for the Office Computer and Server to be tabled. Burack seconded. All Ayes. Carried.

Parade Permit- Submitted by Balanced Body Yoga: would like to have an event from 11am-5pm on Saturday October 18, 2014. BBY-204 S Saginaw between buildings on grass with overflow on grass to North of Balanced Body Yoga building Motion to approve Miller. Prestonise seconded. All Ayes. Carried.

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Parade Permit- Submitted by Mark Dobson for the 2014 Homecoming on October 10, 2014 from 2pm-2:30pm. Staging on Ann St down Washington St to S Church turning on Hamilton to S Saginaw then turning on Maple and ending at the High School. Motion to approve by Miller. Seconded by Burack. All Ayes. Carried.

DDA Tax Increment Financing Plan: Rob Vandemark, DDA Chairman, explained why they need a vote or will have to wait a year. Miller asked about the Red Mill status. Vandemark stated nothing will happen yet because of the DDA funds. They would like to see if any other options available. DDA has asked if Village could buy it. Cole said owner wants it left Historic, nothing torn down. Building on National Historic Register. Miller feels that the DDA should improve sidewalks. Vandemark stated it is a 20 year plan and grants would help with that. Cole said that the sidewalk too steep for wheelchairs. Miller and Cole both said that the DDA needs come up with a more viable plan. Vandemark said we know and we are just coming up with ideas for a plan. Bessenbacher said we will have a decision on the DDA Plan at October meeting it has been tabled twice already. Prestonise asked if DDA has plans for special tax. Vandemark said no, we just want to get plan approved so they could capture taxes already set, will not raise taxes and after January we will be in on any mileages. No action taken.

The issue of President Pro-Tem until November was raised and Miller nominated Prestonise. Bessenbacher seconded. Roll Call: Ayes-Bessenbacher, Burack, Miller, and Prestonise. Nay: Cole. Carried.

Bessenbacher stated that we should contact Jessica Woods to fill the newly vacant seat and that we should take a 10 minute recess for Prestonise, President Pro-Tem to leave and go to the Woods resident and ask if still interested in the trustee seat. Meeting to resume at 7:45 pm. Prestonise returned and stated that he found a dog meaner than Buracks and he could not contact her. No motion for the Recess.

Council Comments- Cole stated that she disagrees with a lot of the DDA Plan ideas and some she does agree with. Some are pretty lofty. DDA needs to find someone to create a more viable plan.

Miller apologized for the way the meeting happened and that we are trying to become a Professional Body. He also told Vandemark we needed to communicate with DDA more. Vandemark said he agreed and the next DDA meeting was October 8, 2014 at 6pm.

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Cole would like to see the Municipal Building open for use by groups like the Boy Scouts. Jeremy Root, candidate County Commissioner and audience member, reminded everyone what happened before; heat was left on, door left unlocked, and kids climbed all over the Police car.

Prestonise said that as a council we should have no secret meetings, the council needs to know what is going on. He said like when the Durand Police Chief was here and why were there complaints about him talking with Miller after the Police Committee meeting.

Public Comments- No Public Comments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm. Moved by Bessenbacher, seconded by Burack to adjourn. Voice Vote- All Ayes. Carried.