

Draft: April 29, 2008

Village of Bingham Farms
Council Meeting
April 28, 2008

Approved: May 27, 2008

The regular meeting of the Village Council was called to order by President Bauer at 7:45 p.m.

Present: Bauer, Ettenson, Freeman, Gollnitz, Kesley, Leckie & Tripp

Absent: None

Also Present: Police Detective Lieutenant William Castro, Fire Chief Tony Averbuch, Earl Wolfe, Richard Holloway, Hagaman, Ludwick & McDermott

Agenda

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Tripp to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Village Budget Public Hearing

President Bauer opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

The 2008-2009 General Fund budget totals \$2,111,800.00. The 2008-2009 Gas & Weight Fund Budget totals \$506,097. The millage rate will remain at 6.8 mills, the same as the 2007-2008 tax year.

President Bauer closed the Budget Public Hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation

President Bauer opened the Truth in Taxation Hearing (Headlee Amendment) at 7:50 p.m.

There were no public comments.

President Bauer closed the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing at 7:51 p.m.

Police S.A.D. Public Hearing

President Bauer opened the Police S.A.D. 2008-2009 public hearing at 7:52 p.m.

Detective Lieutenant Bill Castro provided a brief summary of the purpose of the Special Assessment District. He stated that the S.A.D. budget to be funded for 2008-2009 is \$265,093. Lieutenant Castro summarized the primary uses of those funds, which are salaries and benefits for the two officers that work in the Bingham Farms commercial district.

There were no questions from the audience.

President Bauer closed the Police S.A. D. 2008-2009 public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

Minutes

Mrs. Hagaman requested a word change on Page 2 under the budget presentation, changing the word “depleting” to “reducing” the fund balance.

Motion by Leckie, second by Tripp to approve the meeting minutes of March 26, 2008 as amended.

Motion carried (Ettenson & Gollnitz abstained due to absence)

Public Comments not listed on the agenda

Mr. Holloway indicated that Mobile Watch will hold its regular meeting on May 7th at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Holloway invited all trustees to the meeting.

There were no other public comments.

Police Chief

Police Detective Lieutenant Castro briefed Council on activity in the commercial district during the month. The investigation continues on the robbery that occurred outside the Lasalle Bank. Police believe they have one suspect (allegedly the driver of the getaway vehicle) and continue to search for the person who actually committed the robbery.

Police are investigating a complaint regarding graffiti painted on a wall at Bingham Farms Elementary School.

Officers have arrested a number of drivers for driving with a suspended license, some of whom had outstanding warrants. One traffic stop resulted in the seizure of several thousand of dollars presumably from drug trafficking. These funds may end up in the department's forfeiture fund.

Nine laptop computers were stolen from a suite at 30150 Telegraph Road. Surveillance video shows the suspect entering and leaving the building several times. Police believe the suspect is known from prior incidents and is currently on parole. The investigation is continuing.

There have been several complaints received regarding the increase in the number of coyotes in the area. The DNR has indicated these animals are on the "protected species list" and may not be harmed.

Fire Chief

Chief Averbuch referred to his written report. He thanked those trustees who attended and extended an invitation to those not able to attend to stop by to see the new equipment.

SOCWA Agreement

Jeff McKeen, General Manager of SOCWA, highlighted the changes in the proposed amendment to the original SOCWA Agreement entered into by the Village in 1980. SOCWA enters into a separate agreement with DWSD and has its own storage units. This allows SOCWA to maintain a steady flow of water and not be subject to the peaks and valleys of water usage. This has resulted in much lower rates for its member communities. Mr. McKeen and Mr. Davis, the attorney for SOCWA, addressed various questions raised by Gary Dovre, the Village's attorney.

As the Village's representative to SOCWA, Mr. Freeman indicated support of the proposed Amendment to the SOCWA Agreement and complimented Mr. McKeen and his staff for the excellent job in administering the water supply and negotiating with the DWSD.

RESOLUTION 2008- 10 OFFERED BY FREEMAN, SUPPORTED BY ETTENSON to enter into the Agreement with SOCWA for water distribution service.

AYES: Ettenson, Freeman, Gollnitz, Kesley, Leckie, Tripp & Bauer
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED 7-0

Full resolution attached to original minutes.

Declare May Mental Health Month**RESOLUTION 2008- 09 OFFERED BY GOLLNITZ SUPPORTED BY ETTENSON to declare May “Mental Health Month”.**

AYES: Ettenson, Freeman, Gollnitz Kesley, Leckie, Tripp & Bauer

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED 7 – 0

Full resolution attached to original minutes.

No Reason Absentee Ballot

Mrs. Hagaman stated that currently a voter seeking an absentee ballot must provide the reason for requesting it. There are limited options. If the reason for the request is not one of the options, the voter cannot get the absentee ballot or must technically commit fraud and use the “will be out of town” reason. The resolution requests the Michigan legislature to amend the voter law to allow a “no reason” option.

RESOLUTION 2008-11 OFFERED BY ETTENSON, SUPPORTED BY TRIPP to support legislation to allow “No Reason” Absentee Ballots.

AYES: Ettenson, Freeman, Gollnitz, Kesley, Leckie, Tripp & Bauer

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED 7-0

Full resolution attached to original minutes.

Teen Driving Resolution

Mrs. Hagaman stated that many municipalities and law enforcement entities are signing on to an initiative that hopefully will reduce the fatal accidents involving teen drivers.

Detective Lieutenant Castro indicated that the Franklin-Bingham Police Department is endorsing this program. He explained that when a parent signs up, they will be given a sticker which is placed on the window of their vehicles which will tell police that they are to be notified when their teen driver is pulled over and for what reason. A notice will be sent to the owner of the vehicle advising them of the citation. Most fatal accidents involve drivers between the ages of 16 and 24. This is a strictly volunteer program.

RESOLUTION 2008- 12 OFFERED BY ETTENSON, SUPPORTED BY LECKIE to support the STOPPED Program.

AYES: Ettenson, Freeman, Gollnitz, Kesley, Leckie, Tripp & Bauer

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED 7-0

Full resolution attached to original minutes.

Treasurer’s Report

The March 2008 General Fund balance was \$2,659,825.91 with income for the month of \$26,640.76 against expenditures of \$112,310.48. The Gas & Weight Fund balance was

\$403,834.35 with income for the month of \$4,731.83 against expenditures of \$8,700.00.

Motion by Leckie, second by Gollnitz to accept the March 2008 Financial Statement as presented.

Motion carried.

The Bills to be Paid for April 2008 were in the following amounts: General Fund, \$210,006.39; Gas & Weight, \$18,207.75.

Motion by Leckie, second by Gollnitz, to approve payment of the April 2008 bills as presented.
Motion carried.

Mrs. Ludwick reported that monies will be drawn from the pool funds to meet April expenditures.

Treasurer's Memo attached to original minutes.

Clerk's Report

Mrs. Hagaman stated the new copier has been installed. The total cost will be under the \$8,000.00 allocated.

There will be a ZBA meeting prior to the May 27th regular council meeting to hear an appeal on a Design Review Board decision relating to a lighting plan for 30029 Bristol Lane.

Per the Village's General Stormwater Permit from the MDEQ, the Village's engineering firm AEW inspected all outfalls to detect any illicit discharges into the Franklin Branch of the Rouge River. There were no incidents found.

A final meeting will be held to negotiate a resolution on the Hickory Hollow Road Paving Project undertaken September 2006. If there is no resolution, the Village will need to decide whether to forward a claim to the Bonding Company.

Clerk's Memo attached to original minutes.

Trustee Reports

President Bauer has had inquiries from residents regarding downed trees along the Franklin Branch of the Rouge. Mrs. Hagaman indicated that most of the river runs through private property and therefore it is the responsibility of the property owner.

Mr. Kesley reminded the Council that there will be a joint meeting with the Planning Commission on May 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss conflicting language in several ordinances. The Design Review Board has also been invited to this meeting.

Old Business -None

New Business-None

There being no further business to conduct, the President adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.