

Draft: July 27, 2007

Village of Bingham Farms  
Council Meeting  
July 23, 2007

Approved: August 27, 2007

The regular meeting of the Village Council was called to order by President Bauer at 8:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Kesley

Also Present: Police Chief Browne, Fire Chief Tony Averbuch, Earl Wolfe (23565 Old Orchard Trail), Mr. & Mrs. Van Weelden (29975 Bristol Lane), Dr. Babu Vadlamudi (30075 Bristol Lane), Hagaman, Ludwick & McDermott

### **Agenda**

Motion by Ettenson, second by Leckie to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried.

### **Minutes**

Motion by Leckie, second by Gollnitz to approve the meeting minutes of June 25, 2007 as submitted.

Motion carried.

### **Public Comments – items not on the agenda**

Mr. Van Weelden discussed a problem regarding his neighbor Mr. Lasser (30029 Bristol Lane) who is installing accessory structures (koi pond, pergola and fire pit) in his front yard. He has planted arborvitae as a screen on three sides of the property. Nothing like this exists in the Village and it is not in harmony with the rest of the neighborhood. Mr. Lasser has built a 7-ft. waterfall. There is also a concern that Mr. Lasser may be encroaching on neighboring properties.

Dr. Vadlamudi also stated his opposition to the structures.

President Bauer stated that the village is aware of the situation and will discuss possible action in a closed session later this evening.

President Bauer indicated that the boundary dispute is a private matter over which the Village has no authority to intervene. She recommended that both neighbors consider having their own survey.

### **Police Chief**

Chief Browne provided a summary of police activity during the month. Most notable was a robbery in a home under renovation on Bristol Ln. All the copper plumbing and electrical supplies were stolen. In the commercial district, there was a theft of an employee's wallet. A description of a suspect was generated.

The chief updated Council on the search for a replacement to fill the vacancy created with the retirement of Sgt. Girardot. Two candidates are being considered.

The annual report has been disseminated. Overall, crime statistics remain low and the officers are doing a great job. In response to a question on the crime statistics, the Chief indicated that the downturn in the economy is one of the factors when crime increases.

President Bauer commended the Chief and his staff. The Council complimented him on the new look of the Annual Report.

**Fire Chief**

Chief Averbuch invited the Council to the Fire Department's annual meeting to be held on Monday August 6, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

The Chief commended Brian Crane for quick action when a fire broke out in a house in Franklin and he was able to rescue the family dog trapped inside. The fire was contained, however there was significant damage to the home. There were smoke alarms in the home, but there were no batteries in them.

**Adopt or Extend Fire Contract - M**

Motion by Leckie, supported by Ettenson to extend the current fire contract on a monthly basis until the attorneys finalize the proposed contract.

Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

The June 30, 2007 General Fund and Gas & Weight Fund Financial Reports will be presented when then final invoices and checks for the period have been received and processed, usually in late August.

The Bills to be Paid 1st Addendum to June 2007 showed the following amounts: General Fund increased \$20,035.27; Gas & Weight increased \$9,931.20.

Motion by Gollnitz second by Tripp, to approve payment of the June addendum bills as presented.

Motion carried.

The Bills to be Paid for July 2007 were in the following amounts: General Fund, \$95,229.18; Gas & Weight, \$0.00.

Motion by Leckie, supported by Tripp, to approve payment of the July bills as presented.

Motions carried.

Treasurer's Memo attached to original minutes.

**Clerk's Report**

AEW is working with the County and SOCWA on the Village's water reliability study, which includes projected demand over the 10 years. The MDEQ requires this study.

Mr. Freeman stated that the DEQ recently released a report identifying a problem with the Detroit water quality recently based on data collected a number of years ago. The problem areas were addressed long before the DEQ released its report.

Mrs. Hagaman indicated that the DPW services now being provided by Beverly Hills looks like it will work as envisioned. Several small projects have been completed very quickly.

ProLine is finally finishing the restoration on Hickory Hollow. The Bingham Lane road project is near completion with just restoration remaining.

The invoice for the HHW drop off in June came in and cost \$107/car. Inquiries will be made whether the Village might be able to participate in SOCCRA and utilize their Resource Recovery facility.

The MDEQ has finalized the paperwork for the Village's Emerald Ash Borer grant. Reimbursement should be received in the next two months.

The Clerk's memo is attached to the original meeting minutes.

### **President's Report**

President Bauer noted that Gilda Jacobs will be holding her quarterly legislative meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Sewer & Water/Ordinances-Freeman**

Mr. Freeman indicated that Southfield Township will be replacing Whit Jones on the Township Board. Mr. Ettenson indicated he has applied to serve on that Board.

### **Fire/Police-Leckie**

Nothing to report

### **PC/Legislative- Kesley**

Absent

President Bauer stated that the July Planning Commission was canceled, as there was not a quorum. Only 2 members showed.

### **Cable/Non-Residential-Ettenson**

Mr. Ettenson reported on the last Cable Board Meeting where he was re-elected Vice-Chair. The Cable Board is taping promotional teases presented by various municipal and Cable Board members. He believes it would be beneficial for Bingham Farms to participate. The promotions will show on channels 15 & 18 at various times during the day. Council has been provided with a proposed draft. Mr. Ettenson is scheduled to tape the promotion on Thursday and should any one have any changes, let him know before the scheduled taping.

### **Roads/Residential-Gollnitz**

Mr. Gollnitz stated that the Hickory Hollow road project has been resurrected and the Bingham Lane road project is on schedule.

### **Solid Waste/Insurance-Tripp**

Nothing to report

Motion by Tripp, second by Ettenson to enter into closed session to discuss privileged correspondence from the Village attorney relative to two residential issues.

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Kesley

Motion carried.

Council entered into closed session at 9:18 p.m.

The regular council meeting was reconvened at 9:48 p.m.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

There being no other business, the President adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.