

Draft: January 29, 2009

Village of Bingham Farms
Council Meeting
January 26, 2009

Approved: February 23, 2009

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

Present: Freeman, Gollnitz, Kesley & Tripp

Absent: Bauer, Ettenson & Leckie

Also Present: Police Chief Browne, Fire Chief Averbuch, Hagaman, Ludwick & McDermott

Appoint Chairperson

Due to the absence of both the President and President Pro-Tem, the Council members appointed Delores Tripp to chair the January meeting.

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Kesley to appoint Trustee Delores Tripp as Chair for the Village Council Meeting of January 26, 2009.

Motion carried.

Agenda

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

Motion carried.

Minutes

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Freeman to approve the meeting minutes of December 22, 2008 as submitted.

Motion carried.

Public Comments not listed on the agenda

None

Police Chief

Police Chief Browne briefed Council on monthly activity.

Catalytic converters were stolen from vehicles in the parking lots of the 30300 & 31500 Telegraph Road buildings.

The police department began using E-citations which scans pertinent information from a driver's license and electronically sends the ticket to the court.

The Chief introduced Officer George Krajewski who has been hired part time to provide additional police coverage due to the absence of Officer VanLacken who remains on disability leave. Officer Krajewski thanked Council for this opportunity to serve.

Fire Chief

The department saw an increase in activity during December as a result of the ice and snow storms.

He cited a problem regarding a condo unit where three false alarms were recorded. Guardian Alarm has not been helpful in resolving the problem nor cancelling the call en route.

The fire department received a grant for \$43,000.00 to provide new gear for the firefighters. The grant allows the department to purchase 18 fire-resistant coats and pants. The Department will also be able to purchase 31 egress kits to meet today's standards.

The Ladder truck is back into service after needed parts were fabricated.

Appoint Budget Committee

Mrs. Ludwick announced that this month the Council needed to appoint a budget committee. Both Mr. Freeman and Mr. Leckie have indicated their willingness to serve on the committee.

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Kesley to appoint Bill Freeman & Dave Leckie to serve on the 2009-2010 Budget committee.

Motion carried.

Release of Claims -Lots 9 & 10 Bristol Lane

Mrs. Tripp summarized the negotiations with Mrs. Fath relative to several complaints relative to her property during Village road construction projects.

Motion by Tripp, second by Gollnitz that the Village has made past attempts to address concerns of the property owner of Lots 9 and 10 resulting from Village road projects and given the fact the Village, at an additional cost of \$1,000, removed the new driveway apron on Lot 10 at the request of the property owners, that Council authorizes the payment of \$1400 to the property owners which completely finalizes all issues raised in previous correspondence. The Village is in receipt of an executed Release and Waiver of Claims from the property owners.

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The December 2008 General Fund balance was \$2,849,961.39, with income for the month of \$26,350.76 against expenditures of \$275,080.42. The Gas & Weight Fund balance was \$529,736.76, with income for the month of \$161,160.45 against expenditures of \$157,276.13.

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Kesley, to accept the December 2008 Financial Statement as presented.

Motion carried.

The Bills to be Paid for January 2009 were in the following amounts: General Fund, \$114,937.35; Gas & Weight, \$35,748.75.

Motion by Gollnitz, second by Freeman, to approve payment of the January 2009 bills as presented.

Motion carried.

Mrs. Ludwick reported regarding the costs associated with alternative accounting software projects. The annual maintenance fee for Fund Balance software would run approximately

\$4,500 per year in addition to the initial purchase cost. For the BS&A software product, the annual maintenance costs would run almost \$6,200. Council concurred that, at this time, the cost appeared excessive for the needs of the Village.

Treasurer's Memo attached to original minutes.

Clerk's Report

Mrs. Hagaman met with Chris Wilson (Mgr.) and Tom Meszler (Eng) of Beverly Hills to discuss expanding current services covered under the Interlocal Agreement. Residents constructing new homes have seen the costs provided by the Village's engineers, AEW, escalate. Beverly Hills is working on a proposal which will include associated costs for review of new home plans and observation.

Mrs. Hagaman updated the Council on the important dates for the September 2009 Village Elections. Nominating petitions and Affidavits of Identity are due by 4:00 p.m. on June 23rd. Elections will be held on September 15, 2009. The President's seat (Mary Jane Bauer) and three trustee seats (Rodger Kesley, Mel Ettenson and William Freeman) are up for election.

The Road Commission Strategic Planning Meeting will be held Thursday, January 29 at 2:30 p.m. at the Village office. The full Council is invited to attend. Last year the President and President Pro Tem attended, however neither is available to attend. Mrs. Tripp indicated a possibility that she could attend.

A grant application was submitted for the DTE Tree Planting Program (\$3,000) and one to the Alliance of Rouge Communities (\$2,500 - \$5,000). Awards are expected to be announced in mid-February.

Mrs. Hagaman met with representatives from the Evergreen Farmington Sewer Disposal System regarding the Sewer Based Meter Billing System and its implications to the Village. Currently due to the relative "newness" of our system, the Village will see a decrease in sewer billing. This may change over time as other municipalities implement improvement in their systems.

As a result of this new billing system, the Village eventually may be able to address the concerns of property owners who have asked for separate water meters to monitor their sprinkler systems.

Mrs. Hagaman is planning on attending the Legislative Conference in Lansing on March 3 & 4th. It was a beneficial program last year and given the economic situation in Michigan, the program should provide valuable information again this year.

The Michigan Association of Planning is offering an evening workshop on Planning and Zoning subjects on February 24 from 4-9 p.m. in Lathrup Village. A few members from the Design Review Board and Planning Commission have indicated interest in attending.

Based on the formula for dispersing Federal Infrastructure Program money, the Village may not see any of it.

A resident on Bristol Ct. has requested that the Village look into putting term limits on volunteers who serve on various Boards and Commissions. The Village has not considered this due to past problems finding volunteers. Council requested that neighboring municipalities be surveyed to see whether they have term limits.

Trustee Reports/Comments

Mr. Gollnitz questioned the availability of WiFi as he seems to have wireless access available in his home. Mrs. Hagaman stated that the Oakland County program has been mothballed and wireless access in the pilot areas has been terminated.

Old Business -None

New Business-None

There being no further business to conduct, Mrs. Tripp adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.