

**Village of Breckenridge
Regular Meeting
Breckenridge High School Media Center
April 28, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Breckenridge Village Council was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Buchanan at Breckenridge High School Media Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Anderson

Councilpersons Present: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan

Councilpersons Absent: Ostrander

Staff Present: Manager Jeff Ostrander, Clerk Anderson, Treasurer Suhr

Guests: Breckenridge Middle School Odyssey of the Mind Team and their coach, Lisa Gregory. Mike Trebesh, liaison for Senator Kahn, Charlotte Simmons and Linda Grahek

President Buchanan introduced guests who were present.

OM Team Presentation: Coach Gregory introduced her team who qualified for the World competition in Ames, Iowa. The team played a DVD of their award winning solution. They will compete against 50 states and 23 countries. On behalf of the Village Council, President Buchanan presented the team with Certificates of Recognition, a gas card, and personal checks from council members to help defray some of the travel cost.

Motion by Councilperson Schaub, supported by Councilperson Chapin, to approve the agenda with corrections and addition of Item #5, Planning Commission Appointment to Old Business. CARRIED.

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, supported by Councilperson Schaub, to approve the consent agenda. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED.

Treasurer Bridget Suhr detailed her financial reports, including March month end and year end reports.

Public Comments were received.

Committee/Board Reports were received.

Manager's Report

Manager Ostrander read from his report. Highlights were that he applied for a DNR grant for Parks and Recreation that would need a \$5,000 match for the \$50,000 award if we were approved. The Village is one of 162 applicants. He shared that the Arbor Day celebration was a success. Councilperson Sterling asked that we send Certificates of Participation to those involved. He will send a list to the clerk. The manager stated that a decision needs to be made on whether to make Warren Faber's position in DPW full time. This issue was sent to the Personnel Committee for further review.

Planning Commission

Planning commissioner Tim Schaub went over minutes from their April meeting. He stated that there was only one application for the open seat on the commission. Council will vote on that appointment under old business.

Library Meeting

Librarian Charlotte Simmons was present and gave her year end report.

No public comments were received

OLD BUSINESS

Authorization for Manager to obtain Village Credit Card

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Schaub to authorize Manager Ostrander to obtain a credit card for the Village. Manager Ostrander will be the only user and the credit limit shall be set at \$1,500.00 All Yeas. CARRIED

Utility Billing Procedures

Manager Ostrander stressed the need for the Village to resolve some billing inconsistencies. He presented a set a standard billing practices he recommends to facilitate billing and collecting. Moved by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Chapin to adopt the uniform billing procedures as presented by Manager Ostrander. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED.

Wade Trim Invoice

Manger Ostrander related that the pump station construction has exceeded the estimated cost; therefore we could only complete one pump station at this time. He negotiated a payment of \$9375.00 as payment that would be acceptable to Wade Trim so that work could start. Moved by President Buchanan, supported by Councilperson Chapin that Manager Ostrander pay \$9375.00 to Wade Trim if it is determined that we have not already paid them \$7,000.00. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Chapin, Sterling, Zimmerman, President Buchanan. Nays: Anderson, Schaub. CARRIED.

Resolution to Adopt Bifurcated Plan with MERS

Councilperson Anderson stated that after meeting with MERS representatives it was negotiated that by implementing the bifurcated plan we could reduce our long term liability by \$12,000 in the first year. MERS lawyers shared that we are the first municipality in Michigan to push for such a change and that it is a large part of why they now recommend this action. Moved by Councilperson Schaub, supported by Councilperson Zimmerman effective May 1, 2009 to convert our current B-4division employees to a blended B-1 plan and our current B-2 employee to a blended B-1 plan. All new employees will be placed in the B-1/B-2 division blend. This motion will also rescind the previous motion to Freeze MERS. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Evening in the Park

Charlotte Simmons presented information and schedule of talent for the countywide Evening in the Park program. Moved by Councilperson Chapin, supported by Councilperson Anderson to authorize \$100.00 to be used to procure talent for this event. All yeas. CARRIED

Billing Procedures

Covered under item #2 Old Business

Cemetery Pricing

Manager Ostrander related that we are losing money on foundation pourings due to the increase price of cement. He suggests .20 per square inch pricing; Councilperson Zimmerman suggested that the going rate at this time is .26 per square inch. The issue will be sent to the Cemetery Committee for further discussion and recommendations.

Tree Fund Account

Money is being received for a tree fund set up by Arborist Mike Sterling. He would like a separate line item in the budget under Parks and Recreation designated specifically for tree

purchase. Moved by President Buchanan, supported by Councilperson Anderson to authorize Treasurer Suhr to open a basic savings account with a \$100.00 minimum for the Tree Fund. Signatures will be the same as already used on Village Accounts. All yeas: CARRIED

Veteran's Ball Field

Councilperson Chapin shared that many years ago there was a Veteran's Memorial ball field located east of the Elementary School. It has since been eliminated. The American Legion would like to name the field located at Jaycee Park, Veteran's Memorial Ball field. Manager Ostrander commented that since the Jaycee's are no longer an active entity, perhaps we should consider other options for the entire park. Sent to Parks and Recreation Committee for further review.

Handbook Revisions

President Buchanan recommends that Manager Ostrander set down with Personnel Committee to address these issues in more depth and return with recommendations.

Invoice Approvals

Moved by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Schaub to authorize payment of Morton Salt and Fleis and VandenBrink invoices as presented. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED

Wade Trim Invoice

Already discussed in Old Business

Continuing Education for Planning Commissioner Schaub

Moved by Councilperson Sterling, supported by Councilperson Chapin to authorize \$95.00 for Tim Schaub to attend a training seminar June 25th for continuing education credits to maintain his certification as Master planner. All Yeas: CARRIED

Greater Gratiot

Manager Ostrander met with Chelsey Foster of Greater Gratiot. They fully support our efforts to obtain grants for Industrial Growth and feel they our plans fall directly in line with what Greater Gratiot has planned.

Website updates

We will obtain pictures of council at our next meeting to update the Village website.

No Public Comments were received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the Memorial Day observance, the next regularly scheduled Village Council meeting will take place Tuesday, May 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Media Center

President Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Anderson
Village Clerk