

**Village of Breckenridge
Regular Meeting
Breckenridge High School Media Center
May 26, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Breckenridge Village Council was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by President Pro-Tem, Tim Schaub at Breckenridge High School Media Center. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Anderson

Councilpersons Present: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan (6:45 p.m.)

Councilpersons Absent: None

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

Guests: Steve Clark from Rowe, Gary Bartow from Fleis & VandenBrink, Charlotte Simmons and Linda Grahek

Motion by Councilperson Anderson, supported by Councilperson Chapin, to approve the agenda with addition of Item #10, New Business: Resolution to retain Fortino as legal counsel for water grant. CARRIED.

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

No Public Comments were received.

Committee/Board Reports were received.

Manager's Report

Manager Ostrander read from his report. Citing the recent infrastructure issues and mounting costs to the Village, he pointed out that it confirms how right we were to pursue the water/sewer grants. He reported that the old MERS plan has been successfully frozen and the new blended plan has been implemented. He stated that the ACT 51 financial report has been resubmitted. The total to date on the sewer collapse is approximately \$25,000. The Old Village Hall Building has a major roof leak and interior damage. Roof replacement would be \$11,000 and the interior repairs could be approximately \$30,000. The manager is currently dealing with our insurance company as to how much expense will be covered. The exterior repairs are not a covered expense. Mediation in the sexual discrimination law suit with Ben Jaime is complete. The Village agreed in mediation to pay Ben \$1,000. Manager Ostrander stated that the reason for the pay out was damage control and that it could have been much worse based on statements made by Ben's supervisor, Chief Mecomber, to the effect that he was being let go and he was keeping a female officer instead. Manager Ostrander successfully negotiated with Fund Balance to reimburse \$3200.00 out of the \$3500.00 paid in advance.

Planning Commission

There was no quorum

Library Meeting

Council representative was not present at the meeting. Librarian Simmons read from the minutes. She shared that the occurrences of vandalism in the bathroom have ceased.

Fire Board

Councilperson Anderson updated council that fittings for the new fire truck have been purchased and it is now fully operational.

Tree Advocacy

Minutes were reviewed and placed on file

4th of July Committee

Minutes reviewed and placed on file

OLD BUSINESS

Concrete Equipment

Manager Ostrander stated that it would cost \$2700.00 to purchase concrete forms and equipment for sidewalk repair that would allow them to do 110 linear feet per pour. He would also like council to consider an additional \$1657.00 for a one person screed that would be much more cost effective. These funds would come from General Fund Equipment Replacement. The labor and supplies would come from street funds.

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Chapin to approve the purchase of concrete forms, equipment and 1 person screed in the amount of \$4357.00. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. Nays: None. CARRIED.

Road Equipment Rental

Manager Ostrander checked into the purchase of new equipment to repair and maintain our streets. The purchase price would be \$11,000 versus renting the equipment at \$1600 for one week. He also contacted the City of Alma and they expressed some interest in a possible co-purchase, but not until next year. The County is not interested in leasing their machine. The manager recommends a one week trial with the rental. He will look into the matter further and bring it up again in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Audit

Treasurer Suhr recommends that we get an audit now so that we can make a fresh start and make much needed corrections due to a change in office staff. Numbers were forced in the past and have caused some problems. It would also make ACT 51 compliance easier. Christine Schaub of Roslund Prestage to perform the audit for \$5500. They could be done by June and we could file an extension with ACT 51 if needed.

Motion by Councilperson Ostrander, supported by Councilperson Buchanan to contract with Roslund Prestage in the amount of \$5500 for the purpose of an audit. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. & Buchanan Nays: None. CARRIED.

Invoice Approvals for sewer repairs

Total cost is projected at over \$25,000 once 55 hours of overtime and equipment use is considered. We still need asphalt which is not included in that total. Manager Ostrander will get quotes and will furnish those at the next meeting.

Motion by Councilperson Anderson, supported by Councilperson Chapin to approve payment of sewer repair invoices out of Sewer Repairs. Butcher Excavating, \$4200, Rick Henry, \$4827, R.B. Satkowiak, \$277.50, Robinson Electric, \$4737.50 and Isabella Corporation, \$7960. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. & Buchanan Nays: None. CARRIED.

Election Expenses

It is recommended that the Howe Memorial Library share in one third of the total expenses for the Village election to be held this year, September 15th. They have 2 of the 6 slots on the ballot. The Village has budgeted \$2086.00 for expenses this year, but can't predict the final cost.

Motion by Councilperson Ostrander, supported by Councilperson Sterling to have the Library responsible for 1/3 of expenses for this year's election. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. Nays: Buchanan. CARRIED.

Proposed Name Change/Jaycee Park

Since there are no active Jaycees in Breckenridge and because the Hoffmeyer grant money has supported the park for at least 10 years, Manager Ostrander would like to rename the park as the Hoffmeyer Memorial Park. He is seeking consent from the family. Councilperson Chapin would like to see the baseball field at that location renamed Veteran's Memorial Baseball Field. The American Legion, Post 295 has expressed interest in making a sign to that effect. President Buchanan stated further improvements would be at Legion expense and would require council approval. Councilperson Schaub recommended that the Legion have a representative sit in on the Parks Committee meetings and would like to publish a notice that the public become involved and attend the next Parks meeting.

Resolution to add new manager to MMWA mailings

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Chapin to adopt the resolution to allow Clerk Anderson and Manager Ostrander be added to MMWA mailings. CARRIED

Resolution to add Treasurer Suhr to bank signature cards

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Buchanan to resolve that Treasurer Suhr be added to all bank signature cards. CARRIED

Fleis and VandenBrink/Sewer and Lagoon upgrades

Gary Bartow was on hand to discuss the condition of our lagoons. After viewing these lagoons he feels it is obvious that they have not been properly maintained in at least 15 to 20 years. Specifically, he notes that the banks have eroded, levels in the ponds are high, and there could be serious violations. He and the manager have requested a letter from DEQ to detail specific violations, but it has not arrived. He has been in touch with Christine Maxwell from the USDA and she has assured him that there are still grants available for sewer upgrades. He strongly suggests that the Village submit the pre-application for this grant. Cost for this would be around \$700. He also recommends that we look at records and try to determine the best way to deal with these problems and maintain the lagoons better in the future. It is felt that the Wade Trim study was not thorough enough. It stated that we had capacity and room for expansion. This study, in Manager Ostrander's opinion, was flawed. We need to evaluate if this is a capacity problem only or an operational problem as well.

Wood burner Ordinance

Councilperson Sterling shared his research into surrounding area policies on wood burners. St. Louis recently adopted an ordinance limiting their use within the city and he believes we may need to do the same to maintain air quality and prevent health issues with residents due to the smoke. Consensus of council members was that the issue should go to the Planning Commission for further review and bring back recommendations.

Fund Allocation for Parks

Work is being completed at the tennis courts. Manager Ostrander seeks approval for work to continue in the amount of \$3400. He also requests an additional \$500 for paint and \$600 for miscellaneous repairs to total \$4500 out of the Parks and Recreation fund, Hoffmeyer money. Two basketball set ups are being donated although they are missing some arts. He would like to allocate the money now so that the park is ready for summer use.

Motion to spend \$4500 of parks money for use now for park improvements by Councilperson Chapin, supported by Councilperson Ostrander. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. & Buchanan Nays: Anderson. CARRIED.

Fortino Legal Services for Water Grant

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, supported by Councilperson Chapin to continue to retain Chuck Fortino as our legal counsel of record for the water grant. Hourly rate set at \$140 per hour and a maximum of \$7500 total. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman. & Buchanan Nays: None. CARRIED.

Public comments were received

Gary Bartow updated on the water project. Manager Ostrander shared information on the water main break last week at the High School that blew the main further down Eaton Street after being isolated. Gary suggests that the location of the line on Eaton slated for update anyway remain near where it currently is instead of behind the residences. Discussion was held on taking down the old Liberty building. President Buchanan stated that the building did not look bad as is, but would like it to come down soon. Consensus of council is that due to financial concerns now, we will take down the building ourselves, instead of hiring Rick Henry at \$2000. We may need to wait until revenues start to come in. Dumpster cost would be around \$600.

Steve Clark from Rowe congratulated the Village on the grant approval for the water project and stated that his company and he are eager to work with us in the future.

Announcements

Next meeting is June 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the media center.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by President Pro-Tem Schaub.

Respectfully submitted,

Penny L. Anderson
Village Clerk