

Village of Breckenridge
Regular Meeting
July 27th, 2009

A regular meeting of the Breckenridge Village Council was called to order at 6:00p.m. by President Buchanan at The Breckenridge High School Room M-8. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Anderson

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

Councilpersons Absent: Ostrander

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

Guests: Gary Bartow (Fleis & VandenBrink), Christina Schaub, Chad Payton, and Manning Larsen (Layne-Northern).

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, supported by Councilperson Chapin, to approve the agenda with the addition of items to New Business, #8 Roads and Streets and #9 MFPA Tree Grant. Also added item #3 MERS to Old Business CARRIED.

Guest Speaker: Chad Payton and Christina Schaub were on hand to present the Village audit. Materials were presented and Chad reviewed the audit and answered questions.

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

Public Comments were received.

Concern was expressed from resident Carrie Schaub regarding tearing down the old office building. She expressed her regret and wishes that the public were better informed about the scope and duration of the neglect that caused the problem. She also would have liked the building advertised for possible sale. Manager Ostrander stated that after discussing that with our attorney it was not a feasible option.

COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

Manager's Report

The report was read by Manager Ostrander. Highlights were that he has applied for 2 more grants to assist with sewer and lagoon repairs. He notified MML of our intentions pertaining to an industrial park and this information will be forwarded to the Governor's office.

The radio transmission system that had been causing problems and accounted for approximately 90% of the DPW overtime seems to be remedied by switching back to the old system. The manager has applied for our own frequency which will cost approximately \$100 per year.

Talks with Wheeler Supervisor Jerry Rohde disclose that Wheeler is 40% hooked into our sewer system.

Installation of the new software form BS & A is complete and has already proven to be a good move.

The fire hydrant on the west side of the high school needs repaired and cannot wait for the other upgrades to be done. A new hydrant was given to the Village at no cost from Valero which saved approximately \$2000. They also donated equipment for the fire truck.

Work will start on taking down the old office building. Fred Best had the winning bid and work will start in mid September and is anticipated to take about 1 week for completion. This building needs to come down due to past neglect.

Manager Ostrander has been considering a new DPW employee and has received many resumes. He will review these and have a recommendation for the next meeting.

Planning Commission

Minutes were reviewed from the June 13th meeting. New commissioner Alicia Kreh was at this meeting and was introduced.

Fire Board

Minutes were available and reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

Final Handbook Revisions from Personnel Committee

Motion by Councilperson Chapin, seconded by Councilperson Sterling to accept the recommendations from personnel for changes to the handbook before distribution to employees. The changes are to page 5; sick, vacation and personal days do count toward overtime. Standby on weekends will not exceed 2 hours per day without manager approval and is paid regardless of time worked during the week. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Chapin, Sterling, Zimmerman and President Buchanan. Nays: Anderson. CARRIED

Layne-Northern, Well #5

Tabled until later due to the fact that company representative was not present at this time.

MERS

Councilperson Anderson reported that our monthly contribution will jump from approximately \$3000 to \$7000 per month starting March 1, 2010. This is per our most current valuation dated 12/31/08. This would total around \$80,000 per year. The unfunded balance is at 1.439 million which is up from \$798,000 last year and we are 43% funded which is down from 62% last year. MERS is giving us a 39% credit for 3 years which will show us funded \$425,000 higher than actual. This is being done to give time for the market to recover. We would owe \$96,000 or more the next 3 years if they did not do this. This amount will still come due.

(Councilperson Schaub arrived, 6:45 p.m.)

There is a meeting scheduled with MERS representatives July 29th at the Village Office.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Contract Extension

President Buchanan reviewed Manager Ostrander's goals and accomplishments and would like to recommend that he be offered a two year extension on his contract, making his contract a 4 year contract. He would like to reevaluate his benefits and pay on March 15th of each year.

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, seconded by Councilperson Chapin to extend the Manager's Contract by two years, making it a 4 year contract to be renewed March 15th of each year. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Sterling, Zimmerman, and President Buchanan. Nays: Schaub CARRIED

Resolution for signatures for Chemical Bank CD

Motion by Councilperson Anderson, seconded by Councilperson Chapin to add Manager Ostrander, Financial Chair Anderson and Treasurer Bridget Suhr to the Chemical Bank Water Bond Reserve CD. CARRIED

Cemetery Committee Recommendations

Councilperson Chapin presented a proposal for changing cemetery rates effective August 1, 2009.

New rates would be:

	Resident Lot \$350	Non-Resident Lot \$500	
Grave Openings			
Standard	\$350 (Monday – Friday)	\$500 (Saturday)	\$700 (Sunday and Holidays)
Small	\$200	\$300	\$700
Cremation	\$150	\$200	\$500

A winter fee of \$100 will be added for openings from November 1 – April 1

Deed reissue will be \$25

Foundation prices will be figured at .25 per square inch

For lot purchases, resident shall be defined as a person who resides within the Village Limits

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, seconded by Councilperson Schaub to approve cemetery pricing changes to be effective August 1, 2009 as presented by the cemetery committee. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman, and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED

Clerk/Treasurer contracts

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, seconded by Councilperson Chapin to accept the treasurer's contract as presented. Treasurer shall average 35 hours per week, be offered no benefits and salary to be determined by recommendation of Village Manager and approved by Council. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman, and President Buchanan. Nays: Anderson. CARRIED

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, seconded by Chapin to accept the clerk's contract as presented. Clerk shall average 35 hours per week, be offered no benefits and salary to be determined by recommendation of Village Manager and approved by Council. Roll Call Vote: Anderson, abstain. Yeas: Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman, and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED

Alleys

There are several alleys within the Village that are no longer what could be considered alleys as they are not throughways. Examples are 2 on Eaton Street and the one behind the former Classic Cut building. Manager Ostrander will bring specific recommendations on abandonment of these alleys at future meetings.

Water System Update

Gary Barstow of Fleis and VandenBrink stated that we are on track and right on schedule. The next step they are working on is going to RD to get permits and easements. Materials were presented detailing the plans.

Councilperson Sterling will make recommendations as the Village Arborist for specific trees to be included in the area surrounding the new water tower.

Invoice Approvals

Clarification was made on the Wade-Trim billing.

Discussion on the Rick Henry Invoice. Councilperson Anderson stated his concern that this job should have been brought to Council attention.

Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, seconded by President Buchanan to pay \$1500 to Rick Henry for Invoice submitted on July 17th. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Chapin, Zimmerman, President Buchanan. Nays: Anderson, Schaub, Sterling. Motion FAILED.

Roads and Streets

Manager Ostrander presented a proposal from Central Asphalt for paving. Councilperson Anderson and Schaub both questioned if other bids were presented.

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, seconded by Councilperson Chapin to accept the proposal from Central Asphalt for \$38,900. This will be divided equally from Major and Local Street Repairs and Maintenance accounts. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Schaub, Sterling, Zimmerman, and President Buchanan. Nays: None. CARRIED.

MFPA (Michigan Forestry and Parks Association) Tree Grant

Councilperson Sterling presented information on a \$5000 grant to purchase and plant trees that we can begin applying for. He has already contacted Kluck's Nursery on prices. Project ideas call for adding trees in the new cemetery expansion, filling in lawn extensions on residential property, trees in the parks, and a living memorial behind the cemetery chapel.

(Return to Old Business with the arrival of Layne-Northern representative)

Layne Northern, Well #5

Discussion was held on the confusion over the final bill of \$37,798.32 Manning Larsen who represented Layne-Northern answered questions.

Public Comments were received

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heritage Day August 1st. Also, Banjo Pickers and Friends will be featured at the Evening in the Park on Tuesday, July 28th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Buchanan at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Penny L. Anderson
Village Clerk