

**Village of Breckenridge
Special Meeting
Village Hall
May 5th, 2009**

A special meeting of the Breckenridge Village Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Buchanan at the Village Hall.

Roll Call was taken by Clerk Anderson

Councilpersons Present: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Schaub (7:30), Zimmerman, and President Buchanan

Councilpersons Absent: Sterling

Staff Present: Manager Jeff Ostrander, Clerk Penny Anderson

Guest: Gary Bartow, Paul Galdes, and Larry Fleis of Fleis and VandenBrink

Motion by Councilperson Chapin and seconded by Councilperson Ostrander to approve the agenda. CARRIED

No public comments were received

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Financing

Mr. Bartow presented printed information detailing the proposed water system improvements and possible schedule for completion. He would like to start construction by mid-October. Fleis and VandenBrink would need approval for the design work and authorization to begin work so that construction would be completed by winter. The goal for final completion would be July 2010. Manager Ostrander recommends that the Village stay with Fleis and VandenBrink as opposed to putting out a RFA (Request for Approval) which would put us seriously off schedule. He also stressed that the working relationship with this company has been outstanding. Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Chapin to authorize Manager Ostrander to keep Fleis and VandenBrink for the water system improvement project per Manager Ostrander's recommendation. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Zimmerman, and Buchanan. CARRIED

Sewers

Mr. Bartow related that there is a program called State Revenue Funding (SRF) that might be useful in the future for sewer repairs that are much needed in the Village. It allows an opportunity to apply once per year for a loan for such projects and that with this year's stimulus program, they are allowing for a 23% loan forgiveness. However, he feels that with a July 1st deadline that requires a June hearing and time for document review, that we are pressed for time.

The sewer system in the Village is very old and in need of numerous repairs and upgrades. The consensus of Manager Ostrander and representatives from Fleis and VandenBrink is that the engineering study done by Wade-Trim could be flawed and might need to be re-done. They recommend getting a new study and will continue to work on financing options to tie some repairs into the EDA grant.

Manager Ostrander put together a cost analysis for sewer repairs.

President Buchanan shared that council is very pleased with the work Fleis and VandenBrink have done to date for the Village.

Manager Ostrander filled in council on the developments with the major sewer break on Wright Street. He had contacted Robinson Electric who will be doing bypass work.

Gun Ordinance

Manager Ostrander wanted council to be aware of recent inquiries into our open carry of a firearm policy. It is allowed by State Law and the Village has no ordinance specifically against it.

DPW Contract

It is the recommendation of Manager Ostrander that the Village offer a 12 month contract of employment with provisions to current part-time employee, Warren Faber. It would be a contract to keep the employee at the current wage rate without benefits and would allow him to work 40 hours per week in that capacity. Manager Ostrander emphasized that Warren is a good employee and that he saw this as a step to encouraging Warren to move to Breckenridge, which would cut down on response time in case of emergencies. Councilperson Anderson recommended adding the contingency that Warren would pursue water and sewer licensing. Councilperson Schaub felt this was not something council needed to vote on and that it is the Manager's call. Motion by Councilperson Zimmerman, supported by Councilperson Chapin to authorize Manager Ostrander to proceed with an offer of the 12 month contract with above considerations to employee, Warren Faber. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Anderson, Chapin, Ostrander, Zimmerman, Buchanan. Nays: Schaub. CARRIED

Sidewalks

Discussion was held on the need for safe and usable sidewalks within the Village. It was Manger Ostrander's position that we might want to re-consider trying to put sidewalks on both sides of every street. He feels that realistically, nice sidewalks on one side are much more feasible. He would like to see the billing of sidewalks be such that residents on both sides of the street share in the cost irregardless of which side the walk is on or the amount of property owned. Councilperson Schaub stated that the Planning Commission has a 20 year plan that provides for replacing the walks on both sides of the street. Manager Ostrander would like have a plan to start on some of the worst walks very soon. He also shared information on vandalism by children in Birch Street Park and will follow up with the prosecuting attorney and the landlord to recoup damages.

No public comments were received.

President Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Penny L. Anderson
Clerk, Village of Breckenridge

