

**Village of Breckenridge  
Special Work Session  
Village Hall  
January 20, 2016**

A special work session of the Breckenridge Village Council was called to order at 6:10 pm  
Roll Call was taken by Clerk Suhr  
Councilpersons Present: Chapin, Clapp, Matthews, Sterling  
Councilpersons Absent: Schaub, Seeley, Zimmerman  
Staff Present: Manager Jeff Ostrander, Clerk/Treasurer Suhr

Motion by Councilperson Sterling, and seconded by Councilperson Chapin to approve the agenda with the addition of #7 Digital Sign Ads. CARRIED

**Topic of Discussion**

**Old Water Tower Demolition**

Discussion was held on the demolition of the old water tower. A quote was received from Iseler Company out of Romeo, MI. This company specializes in tower tear downs. The quote was for \$13,900. Members present agreed this was a fair price and the project needed completed. Agreed to bring as action item in February

**Farm Land Lease**

Discussion was held on the 3yr Farm Land Lease for the vacant Industrial Park Land. Currently, we have a positive and successful agreement for both parties with Stoneman Farms, LLC. Manager Ostrander contact Attorney Charles Fortino to discuss the option of foregoing the bid process and continuing with Stoneman Farms, LLC. This is an option the Village is allowed by law to take through way of resolution. Manager Ostrander also shared that with market values the new contract would include a reduction of 10% in the price per acre. Members present agreed and desire to seek a new 3 year contract with Stoneman Farms, LLC. Resolution to be presented in February.

**Purchase of Mini Excavator**

The 2016-2017 budget includes the purchase of a Mini Excavator. This piece of equipment would be utilized greatly throughout the Village. Cost is \$55,000.00. Manager Ostrander will seek bids from Bader and Sons and Gratiot Outdoor Equipment.

**Cemetery Rules**

Discussion was held on the current cemetery ordinance and policies. Clerk Suhr shared some information she learned at a Cemetery conference and is working on rewriting the cemetery ordinance. There are concerns with decorations and the abundance of items, trinkets, toys and flowers that are unsightly and not allowed in the cemetery per the policies. Discussion was held on spring cleanup and the extra efforts to clean up these unsightly graves. The Village office will ensure to communicate the cleanup in many ways with the general public.

**2015-2016 Village Budgets**

Manager Ostrander and Clerk Suhr presented the 2016-2017 Proposed Village budgets. Key points of the budget were discussed and highlighted.

**Reschedule Jan Regular Meeting**

Members presented agreed to change the time of the January 25<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting from 7pm to 5pm at the Fire Hall. Notices will be posted and other members will be contacted and informed of the change.

**Digital Sign Ads**

Councilperson Chapin discussed her concerns with the donations for messages on the newly introduced digital sign. All agreed that personal message requests would be difficult to monitor and would take away from the purpose of Village, School and Community news and announcements.

Adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget M. Suhr  
Village Clerk