

**VILLAGE OF BIRON REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES – December 14, 2020**

The December 14, 2020 Regular Village Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jon Evenson at the Biron Municipal Center. The meeting was properly posted according to Wisconsin State Statutes.

PRESENT: Jon Evenson, Tammy Steward, Sue Carlson, Mark Honkomp, and Dan Muleski. Mike Guillemot and Patty Gapen are excused. Also present: Anne Arndt, Lori Sullivan, Rich Schaez and one guest

MINUTES: Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve minutes of the November 9, 2020 Board Meeting as printed. M.C. Motion Honkomp, second Steward to approve minutes of November 23, 2020 Budget Public Hearing as printed. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve minutes of November 23, 2020 as printed. It should be noted under Zoning Districts, language was cleaned up and eliminated some uses inconsistent with the district purposes, specifically “Increase Change to the side yard requirements in R-1 and R-2 districts. M.C.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Raymond “Boz” Bossett, Jr., Administrator in the Village of Port Edwards, discussed the trail sign program. Wood County has a County Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee grant of \$19,000 that four area municipalities are collectively accepting. Trail signage would be uniform and used to mark the “trailheads” of the trail network. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to support the initiative. M.C.

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: Committee Member Tammy Steward reporting. The committee met December 2. All bills, non-lapsing accounts, and journal entries for the Village and Utility departments were in order. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve all bills and journal entries for November. M.C. Treasurer Witt provided dog license fees other municipalities charge. There will be no change in the Village dog license fees for 2022. Motion Honkomp, second Steward to direct the Village Clerk to move budgeted funds from the General Fund to the Non-Lapsing Fund in the amount of \$170,612.00. M.C. Two Lampert-Lee invoices for services to prepare Buy America Certification Forms for Iron & Steel Products and Eagle Road water main materials in the amount of \$840.00 were discussed. Mr. Koopman will be asked to attend the January Board meeting to offer an explanation of charges. Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to approve a loan with Nekoosa Port Edwards State Bank for \$302,084 for purchase of a fire engine. Purchase price is \$502,584.00. The balance will be paid from the fire truck non-lapsing fund of \$156,040, the 2020 contribution of \$20,000 by the Village to the fire truck non-lapsing fund, and the 2021 contribution of \$25,000 by the Village to the fire truck non-lapsing fund. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Steward to pay each full time Village employee a \$250 bonus December 15th for covering Public Works Director duties. Muleski then amended his motion to include a \$50 holiday bonus for each full time Village employee and to have the checks be combined. Steward again seconded. Brief discussion held on the email scam resolution. Evenson will be sending the individual involved a letter requesting repayment. M.C. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve the Finance Committee report. M.C.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Pam Witt reporting. Totals reported to the Finance Committee are: Receipts for November 2020: \$66,827.50. Expenses: \$104,770.63. General checking account bills were paid on check #'s 22765-22852 with 7 auto pays to IRS, Deferred Comp and WRS for payroll deductions. A list of November bills paid from the General Fund was included for the Board to review. Village Non-Lapsing Fund \$938,688.60. Utilities Checking:

\$225,946.91. Money Market \$250,955.66. Utility bills were paid on check #'s 4461-4476. Non-Lapsing Fund: \$14,475.83. A list of all checks paid for Utilities was included for the Board to review. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the October Treasurer's report. M.C.

BIRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief David Kerkman reporting. Four medical and two fire calls were made in November. Active roster is 19. Apparatus committee met with the rep from Custom Fire to finalize fire engine design, compartment locations, and setup. The Chief thanked the Board for approving purchase of a new fire engine and he thanked the apparatus committee for their hard work. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Fire Department report. M.C.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mark Honkomp reporting. Effective January 1, 2021 a 1.75% wage increase will be awarded to all full time employees. There will be no increase in employee co-pay for health insurance. The committee will meet in closed session after the President's Report. Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to approve the Personnel Committee report. M.C.

LEGISLATIVE, ORDINANCE & ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Dan Muleski reporting. The Committee will meet January 4 to finalize ordinance revisions. Motion Honkomp, second Evenson to approve the Legislative, Ordinance and Zoning Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Tammy Steward reporting. The Committee recommends the snowmobile trail to be used as presented by David Moon from Kellner Knights snowmobile club. The club will take care of all the signage for the parking lot at the boat landing. If any issues arise during the season, the Committee will be flexible with making changes. Discussion held on an invoice received from Gerke Excavating for work done on CTH U and South Biron Drive area. The Clerk will contact Gerke and Quest for more information. Assistant Crew Leader Rich Schaeetz reported the lift station on North Biron Drive was repaired and is working very well. Terra was contacted again regarding them completing sewer lining repairs they are responsible for. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to approve the Public Works Committee report. M.C.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, SAFETY & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Mike Guillemot reporting. The committee did not meet in November.

WATER UTILITY COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairperson Sue Carlson reporting. Motion Carlson, second Muleski to make application for a simplified rate case (water rate increase) through the Public Service Commission. M.C. Motion Carlson, second Evenson that the Village assume the Water Utility loan and interest payments for 2021. M.C. Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to accept the Water Utility Committee report. M.C.

WASTE WATER COMMISSION REPORT: *Note: The Waste Water Treatment Plant is operated & staffed by the City of Wisconsin Rapids. One member of the Village of Biron Board of Trustees is an acting member of the Commission.* Motion Evenson, second Honkomp to accept minutes of the October 7, 2020 Commission meeting. M.C. A new wastewater agreement with the City is still not finalized and Evenson will be contacting Attorney Abts to schedule a meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT: Arndt reminded those running for Village office that Candidate Registration Statement, Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination papers are due in her office January 5, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. All Routes to Recovery Grant and Center for Tech and Civic Life Grants funds have

been received. Arndt applied for a Workers Compensation Matching Grant from the League of Municipalities Mutual Insurance which may be used to purchase any equipment that has potential to prevent employee injuries. Motion Evenson, second Muleski to approve the Clerk's report. M.C.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: This item was discussed under Public Comment.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to enter into Closed Session at 7:55 p.m. pursuant to Wis. Stats Section 19.85 (1) (c), for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; specifically, to consider employment offer of Public Works Director/Water Superintendent position. Upon Roll Call Vote: Evenson – yes; Carlson – yes; Honkomp – yes; Muleski – yes; Steward -yes. M.C.

Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to reconvene in Open Session at 8:00 p.m. Upon Roll Call Vote: Evenson – yes; Carlson – yes; Honkomp – yes; Muleski – yes; Steward -yes. M.C.

Motion Honkomp, second Muleski to proceed as discussed in Closed Session. M.C.

ADJOURN: Motion Muleski, second Honkomp to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. M.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Arndt, Clerk

Approved by Biron Board of Trustees

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Jon T. Evenson, President