

**Village of Eau Claire**  
**Monday, January 17, 2022**  
**Unapproved Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

Regular Council meeting called to order 5:30 PM Village President John Glassman

**Members Present:** Virginia Gonzalez, Jeff Rice, Brittany Tanke, Treasurer Lisa Borkowski, PW Supervisor Mike Keesler, Clerk Shawn Foster

**Absent:** Police Chief Charles Sherene

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by Gonzalez to approve the agenda with the addition under C. No. 3 Personal Time for fulltime Officer, second by Rice. All Ayes, Motion carried

**Recognition of Visitors:** Tom Bodak and Michael Donato, Ken Karn Sr. & Ken Karn Jr.

**Visitor Discussion:** Tom Bodak and Michael Danando are starting their Social Equity application with the State of Michigan for a Marihuana Grow. Ken Karn Sr. was interested in getting back on the board to take Baker's spot until the next election. Ken Karn Jr. is wondering about the Planning Commission Opening.

**Approval of the Board Minutes:** Regular Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2021, Motion by Rice, second by Gonzalez, All Ayes, Motion carried.

**Board Minutes:** Fireboard Minutes for October 20, 2021 & Incident Summary of September 2021 and November 17, 2021 available in the Clerk's office.

**Library Board Minutes:** Meeting minutes of January 10, 2022 available in the Clerk's office.

**Building:** The building lighting was replaced with all LED's, total replacement cost w/ labor \$3,600.00.

Also looking at the need for fax machines, most things are scanned and emailed now, we hardly ever use the fax machine. We have two fax lines that cost \$75.00 per line per month. The Village Hall will cancel its fax line and we will look to see if the Police still need their fax machine and possibly cancel their fax line 4/1/2022.

Still looking at options for the Clerks office door and will get prices for a Dutch door.

**Finance/Treasurer's Report: Departmental Balance Report 12/01/2021 – 12/31/2021**

All Funds	1,250,959.30				
Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted	Fund	Restricted	Unrestricted
General		385,863.26	Sanitation		12.57
Major Streets		319,261.65	Sewer	74,460.00	49,313.22
Local Streets		21,133.35	Water	158,730.00	28,776.20
Municipal Streets		212,409.05			

Motion to accept the Departmental Balance Report for December 2021 by Rice, second by Tanke, all ayes, motion carried.

**Payment of the Bills:** Motion by Rice, second by Tanke to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$16,818.26 All ayes; motion carried.

**Employee Wage Report:** Total Gross Wages from November 1 – 30, 2021 were \$12,415.07 with a total of 617.97 hours worked for all regular Village Employees.

**Utilities Report:** Previous amount \$9,913.75, previous penalties \$3,650.90 current amount due \$22,092.31, total due \$35,656.96.

**Budget Meeting:** Next Budget Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5:00 pm, Council will see the new proposed budget at the next regular Council Meeting on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 5:30 pm. Public Hearing for the Budget will be held on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

**Police Department:** Report not available at this time.

Officer Art Hernandez is fulltime and according to the Employee handbook should receive 5 Personal Time days per year at 8 hours each. The Clerk is a Department Head and according to the Employee handbook should also receive 5 P.T days a year. Motion by Karn to give 5 eight-hour days to fulltime officer and 5 six-hour days to the Clerk. Second by Tanke, all ayes and motion carried.

**Administrative:** The Clerk has received information for low-income homes that can receive assistance with water bills. Information from Southwest Community Action Agency has a residential utility relief program that would pay \$650.00 annually in arrearages, the Village cannot disconnect water for 90 days. The Clerk will double check the program and then we will probably just be able to pass the information and application on to people

that need assistance and want to apply for it. Motion by Tanke, second by Karn to introduce this program, all ayes, motion carried.

**Adult Use Establishment License fee:** has been paid. The ordinances for marihuana can be revised at any time to add more establishments. The current ordinance does allow for additional Grows as long as they meet the criteria in the correct zoning.

**Annexation:** The Public Hearing with the Berrien Co. Board of Commissioners has been moved to Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 10:30 am.

**Parks/Community Development:** Elizabeth Park Pavilion roof damage, the Clerk has received two estimates both of them state the roof will have to be replaced. Clerk to turn in a claim for the roof with the Village Insurance Co. \$500 deductible applies. The Village Insurance company will only pay for half of the roof due to depreciation. Total amount they will pay is \$3595.00. Motion by Gonzalez, Second by Tanke to accept the amount and get it scheduled for spring to replace the roof. All ayes and motion carried

**Water/sewer/solid waste: EGLE: (Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy):** states that the Village needs to have an Operations & Maintenance Manual for Ground Water Monitoring. The Clerk has contacted Wightman to put this together and it could cost up to \$5,000. They will come out after the New Year.

**Water Committee:** will look at rates, the Village Clerk will see if Rural Water can come do another rate study.

**The Code Enforcer** is still working on the water problem on Pipestone St. as the water from the sump pump is discharging into the roadway and creating a mess on the road and for the neighbors. The Village attorney has stated that there are Public Nuisance laws but to not get involved in a neighbor dispute.

**Streets:** No new business

**Planning Commission:** No new business, one more member is needed.

**Equipment:** No new business

**Sanitation:** The Village's 3-year contract with Bestway Disposal is up for renewal as of April 1, 2022. Motion by Gonzalez to accept the new 3-year contract that calls for an annual increase of 3% increase, with a .25 cent increase on the first can only effective April 1, 2022, second by Karn. All ayes and motion carried.

Motion to adjourn: 7:13 PM.

Unapproved Meeting minutes by: Shawn Foster, Clerk