

**Regular Meeting  
Of the Board of Trustees  
Of the Village of Bergen at  
7:00pm on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Marsocci at 7:00pm with the following present:

Deputy Mayor Cooper  
Trustee Adams  
Trustee Barclay  
Trustee Morgante

Also present were: Village Administrator Cortney Gale, DPW Supervisor Ken Steinmetz, John Murray, Kevin Donovan, Tyler Mirra, Alex Marsocci, Vincent Pawlukawitz, Nick Booher, Joe Chimino, Hunter Dodson, and Grace Gallivan.

**Approval of Bills**

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Barclay and seconded by Trustee Morgante. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Deputy Mayor Cooper- aye  
Trustee Adams - aye  
Trustee Barclay - aye  
Trustee Morgante - aye

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the meeting minutes for October 9<sup>th</sup> 2013 was made by Trustee Adams and seconded by Trustee Morgante. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Deputy Mayor Cooper- abstain  
Trustee Adams - aye  
Trustee Barclay - aye  
Trustee Morgante – aye

**Mayor's Report**

- October 17<sup>th</sup> I attended a Genesee Association of Municipalities meeting. Filipe and Jill did a presentation on what the County Planning Department does for their municipalities. They thanked the Village of Bergen for having the training session here on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Two members of the American Legion were present and discussed the new Genesee County Veteran's Memorial. They have \$150,000 raised and are still looking for donations.
- On Monday the 21<sup>st</sup>, I attended the Bergen Business and Civic Association meeting. Anna was the speaker for the night. She presented the program on the Park's Master Plan and also our tree program. It was well received and appreciated. The members discussed bringing back the recognition banquet they used to have. Hopefully they will bring that back in the fall of 2014. They will be asking for nominations for people to be recognized.

- The conversation we had with Mercy Flight on October 9<sup>th</sup> seemed to have worked. There have been many instances where the ambulance has been here in six to ten minutes. They have been seen sitting in various areas around the Village.
- I had a conversation with Casey Kisorek about cars parked in the circle at the High School during the events and asked him to please put up some signs that say “No Parking.” In case of emergencies, it makes it difficult for the equipment to maneuver through the circle.
- I met with Chris Suozi from the GCEDC to talk about the possibilities about businesses going up at the industrial park and also asked them to change the electric rate which they have as 4.5 cents per kilowatt in their advertising in the park to 6-7 cents per kilowatt.
- I was informed by the APPA that this coming winter the cost of power should not be going up due to the abundance of natural gas.
- After many years of service, John Murray will be retiring from the Town of Bergen but will maintain his position on Saturday mornings at the Transfer site.
- New York Power Authority has upgraded the first of twelve turbines at the Niagara Hydro plant. It is part of a ten year \$460 million life extension program to replace generators and transformers which date back to 1961 when the Niagara plant went into service.

### Administrator's

#### **Workers Compensation**

- We received a corrected Worker's Comp bill from Genesee County in the amount of \$29,858.31. The previous bill was \$34,046.22. The change was due to an error in the volunteer firemen's assessment.

#### **Disability Insurance**

- Our Disability Insurance carrier Zurich will no longer carry this type of insurance as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. I have contacted Tompkins to discuss our options.

#### **PSC 2% Temporary Assessment**

- For the first time since the assessment was created our final bill is the same from the estimated bill, which means we do not owe additional funds. This year total is \$47,606.32.
- The assessment will begin to decrease in 2014 and end in 2016.

#### **Bergen Country Deli**

- The old building was taken down quickly after the demolition permit was issued on Monday. Construction on the new building is moving quickly.
- Received sewer hookup fee of \$1,750. The work will be done by the construction company and inspected by the village.
- Temporary electric service was installed and transformer vault was inspected and approved by Nick and Joe.

#### **Christmas Around Town**

- We have joined with the Byron- Bergen School S.T.E.P. Booster, Gillam-Grant, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and local churches in the spirit of cooperation to bring our Christmas events together in hopes of growing each event and creating an organized community feel.
- The Tree Lighting Ceremony will be a joint event with the S.T.E.P. Booster's "Cookies with Santa" and Girl Scouts Circle of Giving.
- A flyer will be created to advertise the community events on the weekend of December 6<sup>th</sup> and be dispersed by the group's involved thereby increasing advertising for each event exponentially.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- 5 Electrical transformers were sold to the Village of Castile in the amount of \$7,220. We received a price of \$1,812.50 for the same equipment from T&R Electric.
- Ralph, Ginny and I are attending a healthcare workshop presented by NYCOM in Orchard Park, on October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Received and processed a FOIL request from the Village of Castile's Attorney for our Pole Agreement with Frontier. Warsaw is attempting to make a case to Frontier to pay them for the use of their poles.
- The property at the corner of N. Lake and LeRoy St was deemed "Unsafe" and marked "No Entry" by Ken Kuter, because the north east corner partially collapsed. The owner has threatened to sue the Village, I alerted our attorney.
- Barb, Rene and Bob Fox attended the MEUA Accounting Workshop on October, 16 & 17 in Syracuse. They said it was "awesome", very informative and beneficial to have Bob attend.

### **DPW Supervisor's Report**

- We finished installing the new LED lights downtown and painted them also. We painted the fountain as well. Joe and Nick assisted Castile this week setting poles and installing new wires.
- The plant is running well and we are working on getting ready for the next season. Mowing is slowing so we are utilizing our manpower to get other projects finished up. Also we have the new push camera and will be getting trained next week. This will be a valuable tool to help us diagnose and inspect lines.
- Our new concolor fir will arrive and be planted on 10/30/2013 just in time for our tree lighting ceremony.

### **Trustee Barclay**

#### **Grants**

- I am working with the following arborists to secure estimates for a village tree inventory and management plan; Bob Howard (Ted Collins Land and Treescape) Victor, NY, Andrew Plening (Urban Forestry LLC) Palmyra, NY, and Jerry Bond (Urban Forest Analytics LLC) Geneva, NY. The estimates will be used to complete the application for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Urban Forestry grant. This will enable the Tree Board to have a completed tree inventory and access to software enabling updates and records for tree management. The application is due Dec. 5, 2013.

#### **Village Logo**

- Chelsea Amrhein (Landmark Society) and I will meet Wed. Oct 30 to add changes requested by the board to the village logo design she submitted.

#### **Tree Board**

- A concolor fir will be delivered by Yule Tree Farms and planted in Ward Park on Oct 30<sup>th</sup>. The remaining funds contributed through the APPA grant will be put toward the payment of the trees purchased for this year's Tree Planting Program.
- The Tree Board met on Tuesday, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> and welcomed Cathy Washburn as our newest member. Discussion included the tree inventory grant, tree lighting activity, tree planting program.
- Minutes of the meeting are available in the office, next meeting Nov 19, 11am

#### **Park Committee**

- The Park Committee met on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>; a topic of discussion was a possible Dog Park brought up at the 9/25 board meeting. Requirements for a village sponsored dog park were discussed (one acre fenced in area, water available, etc). It was decided to invite interested residents (via electric bills) to attend the next Park Committee meeting (Tues., Nov 19, 7:30pm) to discuss the establishment of a village Dog Park.

#### **BBCA**

- I was invited to present the Park Grant and Trails Grant to the group at Monday's (10/21) meeting; there was discussion about these grants, the development of the Parks Master Plan, the establishment of the Park Committee, Tree Board, the village tree planting program, and the upcoming Tree Lighting celebration.

### **Saving Our Small Towns and Villages**

- I am registered to attend the Saving Our Small Towns and Villages Workshop in the Village of Lima on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>; Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>; and Sunday, October, 27<sup>th</sup>. This Workshop is meant to explore for all communities in the Genesee Region, economic and design techniques for the future sustainability, growth, and revitalization of our small rural towns and villages.

### **Comprehensive Plan Committee**

- I have discussed the newly developed Comprehensive Plan Committee with the nominees that will be presented to the board for approval: they are Kevin Donovan, Rob VanEenwyk, and Cindy Favata. Vicki Almquist and Vicky Truax have agreed to assist as alternate and sub-committee members.

### **Tree Lighting**

- Cortney, Rene', and I are working together on the tree lighting celebration. The event will take place on Friday evening, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and will take place in Ward Park. Participants include the elementary band, girl scouts, fire department, STEP boosters, Mr and Mrs Claus.

### **School Connections**

- I met with Brian Meister, Elementary School Principal, to discuss Tree Lighting celebration, and other opportunities where the village and school can work together to benefit students.
- Justine Langiewicz, HS art teacher, and I are putting together a plan for the current art pieces displayed in the board room, and new pieces to add for this year.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

Tyler Mirra inquired what a dog park was and where would it be located. Trustee Barclay stated if passed it would likely be in Hartland Park.

### **Trustee Concerns**

None

### **New Business**

#### **Electric Study**

Dave Sada reviewed the electric study, via phone, that was sanctioned by the board to provide options to increase the amount of power the Village receives. Lineman Nick Booher and Joe Chimino also addressed the board. A committee will be formed to review the options and report back to the board with a recommendation for the future.

#### **Comprehensive Plan Board**

The following individuals were appointed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan Board:

Kevin Donovan, Cindy Favata, Robert VanEenwyk, Vicky Truax(alternate), and Vicky Almquist (alternate).

#### **Fire Department Contracts**

A motion was made by Trustee Morgante and seconded by Trustee Barclay to approve the Bergen Fire Department budget and contracts with the Town of Riga, Town of Bergen, and Bergen Fire Department. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Deputy Mayor Cooper - aye

Trustee Adams – aye  
Trustee Barclay - aye  
Trustee Morgante - aye

### **Old Business**

#### **Street Weight Restrictions**

A memo was presented from Village Attorney Kristopher Vurraro which outlined his opinion on restricting types of vehicles rather than creating a weight limit. The Board asked that a local law be drawn up and presented at which time a public hearing will be scheduled.

#### **Computer Equipment/Services**

The Board agreed not to contract with a computer service and pay on an as needed basis. Funds for three new computers and four monitors for the office staff was budgeted for and did not need to be voted upon.

A motion was made by Trustee Morgante and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cooper to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Deputy Mayor Cooper - aye  
Trustee Adams – aye  
Trustee Barclay - aye  
Trustee Morgante - aye

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale  
Village Administrator