

**Regular Meeting via Teleconference
Of the Board of Trustees
Of the Village of Bergen at
6:30pm on April 8th, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Barclay at 6:30pm with the following present:

Trustee Vickie Almquist
Trustee Kevin Donovan
Trustee Robert Fedele
Trustee Emily VanEenwyk

Also present: Village Administrator Cortney Gale and Ken Kuter.

Approval of Bills

A motion to approve the bills was made by Trustee Fedele and seconded by Trustee VanEenwyk. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 11th, 2020 was made by Trustee Donovan and seconded by Trustee Fedele. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor

- The plaque in remembrance of Historian Ray MacConnell was delivered. There will be a dedication in the future.
- Chris Fay has installed the poly-mixer and is running the screw press at the Waste Water Treatment Plant regularly. He reports that it is working well.
- The playground, basketball court and other equipment in Hickory Park have been closed. There is a sign up at the disc golf course to ensure people are social distancing.
- The New York Conference of Mayors has been very helpful throughout the COVID-19 crisis providing quick responses to my emails and sending out pertinent information.
- The State of Emergency will need to be extended; the original one expires April 18th. A letter was sent to residents to provide them with information regarding the State of Emergency, COVID-19 and meal plan program.
- Weekly conference calls are taking place with the county, as well as the Town of Bergen, Byron-Bergen School and Bergen Fire Department. The Genesee Association of Municipalities sends regular updates and the County Department of Emergency Services sends out daily updates.
- I participated in a FEMA webinar about COVID-19 funding and we will be reimbursed for our meal program and other expenses caused by the pandemic.
- We are currently making and delivering 55 meals a day to in need individuals.
- The county's projection of financial loss has increased dramatically from one to four million to a minimum of four million dollars. They stated that 1st quarter sales tax payments to Towns and Villages will not be affected but second quarter will see a sharp decrease.
- Main Street projects have been given permission by the state to proceed as planned.

- Village elections have been moved to June (for now) but no definite date has been determined, or whether there will be mail in ballots.

Administrator

- Chris Fay has installed the poly mixer and is running the screw press regularly.
- The delivery and installation of the membranes will be pushed back to a date to be determined
- Chris has talked with AD Call and will be beginning pumping tanks soon. They also told him that they will be charging us \$225 if they have to come out to pump a single tank.
- I put the Kubota zero turn mower on Auctions International. It is currently up to \$2,900. The auction ends on April 15th.
- After discussions with Zach Kuter and the Mayor we decided to pick up brush every Monday instead of every other.
- I would like to think about our upcoming road projects. We know that we will get less sales tax revenue from the County than we budgeted but there's no way of knowing how much. Do we continue as planned, wait to see what happens, or look to cut from other areas if needed?
- DPW staff has been rotating days as you know. A change has been made so that the linemen will be working together so they can complete necessary jobs in preparation for Bonduelle to open. They also plan to change transformers at businesses that are not open.
- We have received word from the Public Service Commission that we are not allowed to shutoff electric to customers for non-payment. We are still sending bills and notices so people know they are behind.
- I have finished working on the Constitutional Tax Limit form and Tax Cap calculation for the State. They are required to be submitted ten days before the budget passing.
- We have been rotating days in the office. The schedule mostly depends on what each of us need to get done a certain day.
- The eviction proceeding for our tenant has ceased. The rent was paid in full.
- At this time the village is fully operational and we continue to provide all services to residents.
- I received an email from the New York Conference of Mayors regarding the election. They have no definitive date yet that the election will be held but it looks like it may be on June 23rd along with the Primary. When I get the information I will let everyone know.
- Just trying to keep up with all the information that is coming our way.

CEO/ZEO

Code and Zoning Enforcement Officer Ken Kuter reported that he has been patrolling the village looking for violations. There are many people home and working on their properties. An Executive Order from Governor Cuomo has stopped the issuance of building permits and most projects.

Mayor Barclay shared a complaint she received. Mr. Kuter said he would look into it and reminded the Board that there are pending violations that can't move forward as the courts are closed.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Trustee Concerns

None

New Business

Covid-19

Mayor Barclay updated the Board on the COVID-19 pandemic as related to the Village and also sharing information gleaned from weekly conference calls with the County as well as Town of Bergen, Bergen Fire Department, Byron-Bergen School.

Re-Instating State of Emergency

Mayor Barclay discussed the need to extend the State of Emergency another 30 days.

A motion was made by Trustee Donovan and seconded by Trustee VanEenwyk to extend the State of Emergency another 30 days. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

Electric Long Term Agreement

Mayor Barclay discussed the Long Term Agreement extension for receiving power from the New York Power Authority. The Village has not signed the agreement yet. Municipal Electric Utility Association Executive Director Tony Modafferi would like to meet with us along with the New York Power Authority to discuss the agreement.

Rent Forgiveness Request

Mr. Gale told the Board that he received a question from an apartment renter asking if the village would consider reducing or forgiving her rent as she is not working full time hours due to COVID-19. Mayor Barclay recused herself and left the call for the discussion. The Board asked Mr. Gale to gather information from the New York Conference of Mayors and the Village Attorney as well as look into community programs available to help.

Old Business

2020-2021 Public Hearing

A motion was made by Trustee VanEenwyk and seconded by Trustee Almquist to schedule the Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 Budgets on April 29th at 6:30pm via conference/video call per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.15. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Executive Session

Mayor Barclay requested an executive session to discuss union negotiations.

A motion was made by Trustee Fedele and seconded by Trustee Almquist to enter executive session at 7:50pm. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Trustee Fedele and seconded by Trustee Donovan to exit executive session at 8:14pm. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee VanEenwyk and seconded by Trustee Almquist to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney W. Gale
Village Administrator