

**Village of Bear Lake**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**July 15, 2015**  
**Approved Minutes as corrected August 19, 2015**

**Pledge of Allegiance – said by all.**

*The Regular Meeting of the Bear Lake Village Council was called to order by President Jeff Bair at 7:30 p.m. at the Bear Lake Village Hall.*

**Present: President:** Jeff Bair **Council:** Ron Ronning, Carver Edwards, Peggy Bass, Jackie Johnson, Janene Gee, and Don Hyns **Treasurer:** Alice Howe, **Clerk:** Deputy Clerk Cindi McPherson **Staff:** Donna Ronning.

**Absent:** Melanie Ware.

**Guests:** Sue Hamman, Jared Bair, Rick Farfsing, Don & Liz Raiff, Rodney Gee, Wendy Mann, Pauline Jaquish, Randy Homan, Cynthis Homan, George Schafer, Jeanne Walsh, Terry H. (?), and, Barb Farfsing.

**Motion by** Ronning seconded by Johnson to adopt the new agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Regular Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2015: Motioned by** Bass Seconded by Ronning to accept the minutes with corrections. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Motion by** Ronning seconded by Bass to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Building Fund	0
Equipment Fund	3,627.29
General Fund	40,530.80
Minor Street Fund	18,410.03
Major Street Fund	34,619.33
Park Fund	33,593.66
Water Fund	11,243.22
Museum Fund	0
Savings - Honor Bank	25,966.28
CD - Honor Bank	32,850.35
MMA	10,025.29 (Formerly Huntington Account)

**Motion by** Johnson seconded by Gee to pay bills with corrections. Motion carried.

**Reimbursement to the General Fund**

Major Street 05/01/2015-05/31/2015 = \$0.00  
Minor Street 05/01/2015-05/31/2015 =\$0.00  
Park Fund 05/01/2015-05/31/2015 =\$1,314.00  
Water Fund 05/01/2015-05/31/2015 =\$945.00  
Total to transfer to General Fund=\$2,259

Major Street 06/01/2015-06/30/2015 = \$0.00  
Minor Street 06/01/2015-06/30/2015 =\$0.00  
Park Fund 06/01/2015-06/30/2015 =\$819.00  
Water Fund 06/01/2015-06/30/2015 =\$945.00  
Total to transfer to General Fund=\$1,764.00

**New Business:**

**Motion by** Johnson seconded by Ronning , that the Village President be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Manistee County Community Foundation (MCCF) whereby the MCCF accepts gifts and other deposits designated for the Fund to Eliminate Blighted Buildings in Bear Lake: the purpose of the Fund being to assist the Village of Bear Lake with developing and implementing a blight elimination strategy for the Village that will benefit the general community. The funds ~~ate~~ (Correction) are to be used for incidental expenses connected with enforcement of the Blight Ordinance; such as professional fees (lawyer, architect, engineering, etc.), environmental studies, match costs required for grants to demolish a village-controlled building, site improvement after demolition, and the like. In no way are these monies to be used for purchasing buildings directly from a property owner, which would enrich the property owner in any way. Discussion held. Motion carried.

**Motion by** Johnson seconded by Bass the authorization to hire Attorney Jeff Jocks for Blight issues and enforcement to be billed at the Municipal rate of \$150.00 per hour. Discussion held. Motion carried.

**Motion by** Johnson seconded by Bass to hold a Special Meeting July 30, 2015 at 7: p.m. at the Village Hall in regards to the new Blight, Junk, and Dangerous Building Ordinance. Discussion held. Motion carried.

**Motion by** Johnson seconded by Hyrns to pay the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Treasurer \$10.00 per hour but not to exceed 10 hours per month. The hours are to be kept track of on a time sheet. One of the Deputy Clerks duties will be to maintain the website. Discussion held. Motion carried.

**Park:** Donna Ronning announced she will be retiring October 15, 2015. Also, we should be looking for new Park Hosts for next year.

**Trees:** A large tree branch fell in the Park and it was cleaned up by Thompson Tree Removal.

**Streets:** MDOT was in the Village and discussed zoning and recreation, one topic was crosswalks that may possibly be need to be put in on US 31. Discussion held.

**Water:**The water project is still on hold until funding comes available in October 2015.

**Equipment:** None

**Museum:** Pauline Jaquish shared the success of the Museums sales during Bear Lake Days and that the calendars area success. Also, the Museum is receiving bids for various projects including the ADA bathroom, plumbing, and electrical projects. The Museum Committee asked the permission to use the remaining \$2,000.00 the Village gave to start work on the ADA bathroom. Discussions held.

**Planning Commission:** August 13, 2015 will be the next meeting.

**C.A.B.A.:** Rick Farfsing and Don Raiff discussed the non-profit service agreement between the Village of Bear Lake and Manistee County Community Foundation. The budget should be added to the Village of Bear Lake's website. Discussion was held and a motion was made.

**Old Business:**

-Discussion held in regards to the Variety Store. An actual bid did come in at \$94,800.00 and this include the small blue building behind the Variety Store and clean up.

-A letter has been sent to the Zaleski's regarding cleanup of the building destroyed by fire.

**Public Comment:**

- Discussion held in regards to a rumor that if a new business were to move into the Village that they would not be able to because we do not have a sewer system. To the best knowledge this is not true but a private septic system may need to be updated.
- Discussion was held in regards to the President's raise and that if the raise was broken down it would average out to \$10.00 per hr. at 25 hrs. per month.
- Discussion held wondering if the Village will seek more bids for the demolition of any blighted buildings. The answer is yes, when the Village has authority to do so they will seek more bids.
- Question asked regarding the Community Foundation and whether or not the monies will be returned back to the foundation if money is ultimately paid back by the previous owner. Likely not but they will look into that.
- The Village had a problem with fireworks over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Bear Lake Days. We currently have nothing stopping them except for calling law enforcement.

**Council Members:**

- Discussion held in regards to Jared's pay after taking over for Howard Higley, and also the possibility of hiring a second plow truck driver for the winter months.
- Jackie, Jeff, a member of C.A.B.A, and a member of the planning commission to meet with the Jeff Jocks (Attorney) regarding blight.
- The Clerks new computer should have the entire system backed up and also password protected. Discussion held on the computer staying in a locked office.
- Discussion held in regards to the safety of the camper trailers holding tanks being emptied by anyone other than a licensed expert or the actual campers' owner.
- Discussion held regarding the \$250.00 raise per month, the concern was that the budget does not support it.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melanie Ware, Clerk

***Bills To Be Paid:*** July 15, 2015 Bills to be paid

- Kent Health Department – May water samples - \$80.00 (WF)
- Bear Lake Ace Hardware – Miscellaneous- \$432.86 (PF)
- Thompson Tree – approved Tree Removal and removal of limb from the point in the park. - \$6,000 (GF ) \$2,475 (MjS) \$1,000 (PF)
- Bittner/Hyrns – May 20-June 16 - \$690.84 (GF)
- Elmer's- Waterline repair -\$5,487.00 (WF)
- Republic Services – Garbage pickup - \$221.46 (PF)
- Galaxy Electric- Replace 30 amp receptacle in RV pedestal - \$70.00 (PF)
- Ginop Sales – Blades - \$74.50 (GF)
- Barco Products – 3 Grills - \$1,152.13 (PF)
- Larkin Lawn – Misc. - \$37.45 (PF)
- PM Technologies – Preventive Maintenance - \$377.10 (WF)
- Manistee Tire – Valve and Bead Seal - \$15.00 ( PF)
- Ron Brown & Son's – Mix for potholes - \$62.40 (MjF)