Village of New Berlin

Minutes of June 26, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting for the Village of New Berlin was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor, Peter Lennon.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Peter Lennon, Mayor

Dave Smith, Trustee/Deputy Mayor

Richard Potter, Trustee

Jim Crawford, Trustee

Maryellen Canuel, Trustee

Members Absent: n/a

Others Present: Kevin Phillips, Sarah Phillips, Dee Stine, Paul Stine, Montgomery Stine, Kelly Anderson.

Montgomery Stine presented a plaque to the Village of New Berlin on behalf of New Berlin Boy Scout Troop 61, as a thank you for the villages support and assistance to the Boy scouts including but not limited to the Soap Box Derby that was held on Moss Street and the food drive. The Boy Scouts are very happy with the Soap Box Derby being on a Friday night, and they will be looking forward to continuing the Friday night event in years to come. Attendance was great this year, Kevin Phillips added that 18 residents from Pathfinder were in attendance this year, and all looked to be having a great time.

Prior to discussing the SAMS grant and possible uses Mayor Lennon updated the board as to the status of the ambulance that the Village is currently renting from Sidney Ambulance. The rig went out of service at 5pm due to mechanical difficulties. It needs brakes and work done on the air conditioning. The anticipated cost is $1,000-$1,500 for the brakes and $3,000 for the air conditioning. Mayor Lennon and Jim Crawford also updated the board that there are no parts available to fix 259, the Village’s rig that needs a new transmission. 259 has had the plates removed, and the insurance coverage reduced, and the mayor has added rental insurance for the Sidney Ambulance, which he anticipates the board will continue to rent until late August. The Village has been renting the ambulance off and on for the last month and a half at a rate of $100 per day.

The Board discussed options for the use of a $75,000 line-item grant through the SAMS program that is being sponsored and supported by Assemblyman Joe Angelino. The application is due on July 1st. The board discussed the option of using the funds to purchase a new ambulance, or for improvements to the security of the water tower in the Village, which would assist in one aspect of the water improvement project. Kelly had suggested adding the purchase of a backhoe for the DPW into the conversation, however agreed that given the state of the ambulance that the ambulance was a priority financially for the Village. The purchase of an ambulance cannot be completed prior to the completion of the grant application, or it will not be eligible for the grant. Mayor Lennon advised looking for a 2018 or newer with 75,000 miles or less. The purchase of an ambulance will be subject to being put out to bid, with bid requests being put in the paper and mailed to area ambulance distributors, once the specs have been identified by the purchasing team that Pete has assembled.

Rich Potter made the motion to approve the expenditure of up to and including $4,500 for the repairs necessary to the Sidney ambulance that the Village is renting. Maryellen Canuel seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Potter – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED

Dave Smith made the motion to submit the ambulance as the primary need for the $75,000 SAMS grant application for the Village, using the ambulance as the subject for the grant. Maryellen Canuel seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Smith – yes, Potter – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED

Mayor Lennon mentioned that there is movement at the County level to make drivers for the ambulance a civil service position in which the Village could continue to pay the drivers a stipend for the time they are available to drive and pay them Federal Minimum Wage of $7.20 per hour for the hours that they are driving in response to an ambulance call. More information will be distributed as it becomes available.

Maryellen Canuel made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Crawford seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Potter – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED

Adjourned at 6:51 PM - Kelly Anderson, Village Clerk and Treasurer