Village of New Berlin

Minutes of August 21, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting for the Village of New Berlin was called to order at 7:15PM by Mayor, Peter Lennon.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Peter Lennon, Mayor

Dave Smith, Trustee/Deputy Mayor

Jim Crawford, Trustee

Maryellen Canuel, Trustee

Josh Burchill, Trustee

Members Absent:

Others Present: Kelly Anderson, Clerk/Treasurer, Jared Kline, Tanner Webb, Nathan Winton, Shawn Magrath, Patrick Wright.

Mayor Lennon started the meeting with a re-cap of the ambulance bids that were received and opened at a meeting held on August 1st. The bids opened at the meeting were rejected by the board, but after clarification from Village Attorney, David Merzig, Mayor Lennon pursued additional negotiations with the vendors that submitted bids for the procurement of a newer ambulance. Global Emergency Vehicles (GEV) has offered a revised bid for the 2018 Rescue vehicle that had previously been submitted at a price of $110,950, they will hold the reduced price of $98,125 for the Village until the end of August.

The board discussed possible funding options to make the expenditure more feasible including the possibility of an anonymous donation in the amount of $10,000, reducing the interfund loan payment for this fiscal year to the General Fund, tapping into additional reserves, bonding part of or the entire purchase price of the rig, if there was the potential for trade in of the old ambulance, or the option to lease with the option to buy, so that the option to bond can be achieved within a timeframe of 3-6 months. The board has asked Mayor Lennon to return to GEV to determine if there is an option to lease the ambulance to the Village with the option to buy so that the Village can pursue bond funding for the purchase to not deplete the bank account, and to determine if they will accept a trade in and send Bob Starr, a driver for the ambulance, to view the rig in person to assess the rig and the village’s needs. The board will re-visit the potential purchase once the remaining questions have been answered.

Maryellen Canuel made the motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel regarding performance. Dave Smith seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

Josh Burchill made the motion to end the executive session. Maryellen Canuel seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

Mayor Lennon opened the floor for discussion of entertaining a cost-of-living adjustment for the employees. The employees have not received a cost-of-living adjustment in 2023. Josh offered that although he is new, he feels that if we have the right people in the jobs, we need to compensate them. Several options were discussed by the board including both the Federal cost of living and the national municipal cpi adjustment rates of 8.7% and 4%, Josh also included that the Town of New Berlin budgets 2% for standard employees and 3% for supervisory employees. Josh Burchill made the motion to provide a 3% cost of living adjustment raise to all full-time employees effective September 1, 2023. Maryellen Canuel seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – no. APPROVED.

Josh Burchill made the motion to adjust the base pay for ALS medics from $24.50 to $25.00 per hour. Dave Smith seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

Josh Burchill made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the “green space” land that is being offered for sale by the Biao’s as the discussion could impact the sale of the property. Dave Smith seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

Josh Burchill made a motion to end the executive session to discuss real estate. Dave Smith seconded the motion. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Burchill – yes, Crawford – yes, Smith – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

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

Adjourned at 9:05 PM - Kelly Anderson, Village Clerk and Treasurer