Village of New Berlin

Minutes of December 4, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Emergency meeting for the Village of New Berlin was called to order at 12:00PM by Mayor, Peter Lennon.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Peter Lennon, Mayor

Maryellen Canuel, Trustee

Dave Smith, Trustee/Deputy Mayor

Jim Crawford, Trustee

Members Absent: Josh Burchill, Trustee

Others Present: Kelly Anderson

Mayor Lennon apprised the board that mid last week he was notified by Jared Kline that Jared had found a 2016 – 310 John Deer backhoe for sale on Auctions International, with less than 1,500 hours of usage. The opening bid for the backhoe is $26,500. Mayor Lennon thinks that the Village should put in a placeholder bid of up to $40,000. Jared visited the municipality of Bloomfield earlier today and according to Mayor Lennon, Jared expressed that this backhoe is more than Jared could have imagined being able to procure for the Village. There is a crack in the plastic on the hood and it needs new tires, but the municipality of Bloomfield has already purchased a new hood and tires and will have them installed before a purchase is finalized.

Mayor Lennon shared with the board that if the bid for the 2016 backhoe on Auctions International does not go in the Village’s favor that there is another opportunity from a reputable action firm that the County of Chenango uses that the Village may be able to find another backhoe after the beginning of the year. This other site could also be looked at for selling the current backhoe or the current backhoe can be put out to bid for its sale.

Kelly Anderson reviewed with the board that the original budget for procuring the backhoe was $65,000 prior to the fraudulent procurement attempt in the spring of $38,500. The unallocated reserve balance for the Village will be just shy $55,000 after the sale of the old firehouse. She expressed concerns that the reserve balances are lower now than they have been in the time that she has worked for the village and is concerned with how quickly they are being depleted. It was advised that they approve their maximum willingness to spend on the backhoe as it is the last day for submitting bids, and the board may not be able to be re-convened later that day, if the bidding exceeded the anticipated $40,000. Jim Crawford and Dave Smith agreed that they would be comfortable spending up to $55,000 on the backhoe purchase, which if exhausted would commit up to $28,400 of the unallocated reserves towards the purchase of the backhoe.

Maryellen Canuel made the motion to approve the submission of a bid for the 2016-310 John Deer Backhoe that is listed on Auctions International for an initial amount of $40,000 with a bid not to exceed $55,000. James Crawford seconded the bid. VOTE: Canuel – yes, Smith – yes, Crawford – yes, Lennon – yes. APPROVED.

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

Adjourned at 12:09 PM - Kelly Anderson, Village Clerk and Treasurer