

BARTON VILLAGE, INC.  
MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES  
MINUTES  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 6 PM

PRESENT: Nate Sicard, Cathy Swain, Tin (Justin) Barton-Caplin, Evan Riordan, Will Veve (Aldrich Lane Solar Project), Douglas Bonneau (VTrans)

- A. Call to Order: NS called meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- B. Changes to Agenda / Additions or Deletions
  - a. Tree Trimming Bids
  - b. Bridge Projects Update
  - c. Discussion of Bethany Maher's email correspondence in regards to water rates/unit charge
  - d. JBC motioned to amend the agenda based on these additions, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.
- C. Meeting Minutes – April 28, 2017
  - a. JBC motioned to approve the April 28, 2017 minutes with the amendment of adding the correct name of Dave Kennison (Farm & Forest Century 21) for Executive Session, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.
- D. Privilege of the Floor
  - a. None
- E. Old Business
  - a. Project Updates
    - i. Facility Policy Updates
      - 1. CS presented that Kate Kran and Andy Sicard had some suggested amendments to the Facility Policy
      - 2. JBC motioned to approve amended Facility Policy and User Agreements, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.
    - b. Bridge Projects
      - i. Douglas Bonneau presented options for moving forward with the Glover Street bridge project given the location of the broken main.
      - ii. Options discussed were moving the main farther from the bridge ( but still within the right of way) and suspending the water main from the bridge.
      - iii. Mr. Bonneau indicated that at this juncture, suspending the water main from the bridge would require modifications of some of the structural elements of the bridge and probably would not be preferred. However, he would bring that idea back to his team for exploration.
      - iv. Mr. Bonneau indicated that if moving the main were the preferred option, what he would propose would be that the Village conduct the drilling (either with staff or through a contract) and then submit invoices directly to VTrans for reimbursement. Mr. Bonneau indicated that these additional costs would be included into the overall costs of the project and the Village would be responsible for 5% of these costs just like other bridge costs.

- v. Though no official action taken, the Trustees were supportive of moving forward and making sure that the DPW Foreman was included in communications about the water main.

F. New Business

a. Accounts

i. Lien Releases

1. The lien releases did not provide documentation that the lien amounts have been paid.
2. JBC motioned to table the discussion until the next meeting when documentation could be presented, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.

ii. Office

1. Officers on Credit Card Account

- a. The agreement asked officers to personally guarantee the credit card transactions for credit card payments to the Village
- b. Trustees were not comfortable personally guaranteeing the transactions and indicated that BVI staff needed to explore what the options were if not signing the agreement
- c. JBC motioned to not execute the agreement, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.

iii. Other

1. Request to Use Parking Lot

- a. CS motioned to approve the request, JBC seconded. Unanimous approval.

2. Coin Drop Application

- a. CS motioned to approve the BVI Fire Department application for a coin drop on June 24, 2017 from 8 am. to 2 p.m. with the caveat that no rain date can be guaranteed since the application indicated TBD, JBC seconded. Unanimous approval.

iv. 271 Elm Street – Offers

1. Discussion moved to executive session

v. Solar Project Update

1. Will Veve presented that he had met with Evan Riordan and VPPSA staff to discuss possible ways to mitigate the financial losses that would be experienced by BVI electric department if their project is approved by the PSB.
2. The Veves are willing to retire the Tier 2 RECs to Barton Village which would be estimated to be approximately \$18,000 in value.
3. The Veves are also potentially willing to increase the net metering benefit to Barton municipal governments and their electric bills from 10% to 15%.
4. The Veves would also be willing to help support a storage project
5. VPSSA is recalculating the potential impact with more precise estimates
6. Trustees were clear that if this project goes forward it will necessitate a rate increase for rate payers on the Barton Electric Department and that

given the economic status of many of the Barton Electric Rate payers, negative impacts on the rates would be viewed closely with priority given to keeping the rates as low as possible.

7. Trustees were also clear that taking on additional debt to further a storage project would not be an option for Barton Village in the near future.
  8. No action taken
- vi. Part Time Meter Reader Position
1. Evan Riordan presented his plan to recruit a meter reader position for the electric department as budgeted.
  2. CS motioned to authorize Evan to recruit and hire a meter reader up to 19 hours / week on average, JBC seconded. Unanimous approval.
- vii. Tree Trimming Bids
1. Evan indicated that he had received a single bid and that it was well above the budgeted amount.
  2. Though not taking any official action, Trustees provided Evan with the guidance to consider using BVI staff (even if in an overtime situation) to complete the tree trimming and/or to work with the bidder to prioritize tree trimming project priorities up to the budgeted amount.
- viii. Bethany Maher's Correspondence
1. Bethany Maher has been in contact with Nate in regards to the new water rates and unit charges. In synopsis, Ms. Maher expressed concern about the new rates and, in particular, the new unit charges. Ms. Maher expressed that it did not seem appropriate to charge two unit charges if there were only one meter present. Ms. Maher's correspondence also expressed dismay in the way the billing error (an error on the Village's part) has resulted in a significant back charge.
  2. Trustees discussed the correspondence, which is similar to complaints and requests received previously by other water / sewer customers. The Trustees expressed apologies that a billing error occurred and reiterated that they have put processes in place to rectify this from happening in the future. However, as with previous requests to waive these back charges, the Trustees indicated that the back charges would need to stand and that there were payment options available and that Ms. Maher could work with Village staff if she wished to make a payment arrangement. Trustees also stood by the new water rates and the methodology of using the lister cards to assign unit / base charges to each property. None of the Trustees objected if Ms. Maher would like to install a second meter on her property; however, standard installation charges would apply.
  3. No official action taken.

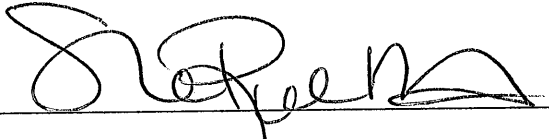
G. Other

- a. Approval of Bills, Warrants, and previous Warrants signed

- i. JBC motioned to approve bills, warrants, and previous warrants signed, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.
  - b. Trustee Mail
    - i. No action taken.
- H. Executive Session
  - a. CS motioned to enter Executive Session with Evan Riordan and Dave Kennison at 7:15 p.m. to discuss real estate contracts, JBC seconded. Unanimous approval.
  - b. JBC motioned to exit Executive Session at 7:35 p.m., CS seconded.
  - c. JBC motioned to approve the Purchase and Sales Contract with the \$25,000 offer from William Gordan (CT) for the 271 Elm Street property and authorizing Nate Sicard to execute the agreement, CS seconded. Unanimous approval.
  - d. CS motioned to authorize Nate Sicard to notify and engage the Village legal counsel to assist with the property sale, JBC seconded. Unanimous approval.
- I. Motion to Adjourn
  - a. JBC motioned to adjourn at 9:40 p.m., CS seconded. Unanimous approval.

Date of Next Trustee Meeting: May 22, 2017

Submitted by Tin (Justin) Barton-Caplin | Board Clerk



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Attested by Shelia Martin | Village Clerk