

**Bridgman City Council**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 15, 2022**  
**6:30pm**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Bridgman City Council was held on August 15, 2022, at City Hall, 9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, MI 49106 and was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Stacy Stine at 6:30pm.

**2) ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Stacy Stine, John Bonkoske, Sam Stine, Pam Hahaj, Georgia Gipson

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** Vince Rose, Jan Trapani,

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Ganum, Parks Director Ball, Police Chief Unruh, Treasurer Lambrix, Attorney Senica, DPS Director Kading, Engineer Mary Nykamp,

**3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by council.

**4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion** by Council Member Sam Stine seconded by Council Member Hahaj to approve the agenda as printed.

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**5) Presentation on County Drains within the City of Bridgman, Berrien County Drain Commissioner, Christopher Quattrin**

Drain Commissioner Quattrin along with the drain commission attorney and Spicer Engineer, Paul Fortin, described the high urgency to begin work on the Bedortha Drain district. There are currently two petitions before the drain commission office seeking repairs or improvements from a group of citizens as well as Lake Township. Urbanization changes have created a load volume that the Bedortha Drain was not intended to handle. Even after repairs from the 1000-year flood event, erosion is continuing to occur. He is requesting a letter of support to be able to fix the drains, but does not need it to proceed, this process will allow city council to be a part of the discussion going forward.

The Drain Commission Code requires the cost be divided by percentages. Off the top comes the municipalities, benefit to the roads, and landowners pay most of the cost usually 60-80 % by Special Assessment. The Drain Code dictates that costs are assessed based on the benefits of repair or replacement. Contributors to the drain get assessed based on their contribution volumes to the drain. All those effected including the Township or City by the Drain Commissioner who makes the decision in consultation with the Engineers as to how much the assessments will be. It is calculated specific to the project and there are no statutory findings required to follow the assessment process, many factors are taken as objectively as possible,

and the Drain Commissioner must act on the petition within 7 years of its request. He described the need to get going with this project as a high priority.

Member Gipson joined the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Item was tabled for a future discussion by the council.

## 6) HEARING OF CITIZENS

None

## 7) ACTION ITEMS

**7A. Motion** by Council Member Gipson, seconded by Council Member Bonkoske approve the minutes of July 18, 2022, regular meeting as printed.

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**7B. Motion** by Council Member Bonkoske, seconded by Council Member Hahaj to approve the bills in the amount of \$233,153.40.

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**7C. Motion** by Council Member Hahaj seconded by Council Member Bonkoske seconded to approve the City of Bridgman budget amendments as presented.

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously

**7D. Motion** by Council Member Hahaj seconded by Council Member Sam Stine to approve Resolution 2022-08 to authorize an agreement between the Department of Natural Resources and the City of Bridgman for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant to fund the Toth Park Playground Renovation Project and allocate \$200,000 from the Park Fund and authorize Parks and Recreation Director Sara Ball to execute the agreement.,

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously

**7E. Motion** by Council Member Bonkoske seconded by Council Member Hahaj approve an agreement between Abonmarche and the City of Bridgman for engineering services related to the Toth Park Playground Renovation Project for a lump sum cost of \$18,700.

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously

**7F. Motion** by Council Member Bonkoske seconded by Council Member Hahaj to approve conditionally rezoning a property at 9675 Maplewood Avenue from Downtown Core District to Industrial District for storage uses by Transient Artisan Ales.

Voice vote Motion Carries Ayes 4 Nays 1.

**7G. Motion** by Council member Bonkoske seconded by council member Hahaj to approve a Healthcare Insurance Stipend Post-Retirement Policy.

Voice vote motion carried unanimously



**8) WORKSHOP ITEMS AND REPORTS**

**Police Chief's monthly report:** 197 Parking tickets were written in the month of July.

**Director of Public Services monthly report:** Two new employees were hired. The department is working on training the two new individuals in preparation for this coming winter.

**Engineers Report:** Mary discussed the Water System feasibility study to combine the City of Bridgman and Lake Charter Township water systems. Completion of the flow testing in Lake Charter Township and City of Bridgman to test out various scenarios will be looked at over the next 4-to 6 weeks along with what capital improvements would be needed for Lake Township to provide water to City of Bridgman. These capital improvements will roll into the rate model and complete results should be available by the first meeting in October. The 2023 construction for the Lake Street rehab project with updated cost estimates rising from the initial \$550,000 to \$625,000, Mary is seeking additional funding coverage from a Grant. \$230,000 estimated on the sewer. The project will begin to bid out in December 2022 or January 2023.

**City Manager's Report:** Ganum stated that he asked Wightman & Associates to design bike lanes, as part of the Lake Street reconstruction project, east of Church Street to add a continuation of the downtown bike lane. Public Information meeting being held on September 7, 2022, for public input and information. There will be a 5<sup>th</sup> Monday Meeting on August 29, 2022, at Lake Charter Township, 3220 Shawnee Rd at 7:00 PM.

A Courtyard Project update The CIA met last Monday to move forward with an enclosure type structure. A sealed bid specification will be moving forward to continue with the design and buildout.

**9) HEARING OF CITIZENS**

None

**10) COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None

**11) Closed Session –**


**Motion** by Council member Bonkoske move to table seconded by Council member Hahaj until a later date.


Voice vote - motion carried unanimously

**12) ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by Council Member Hahaj seconded by Council Member Sam Stine to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm,

Voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

  
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Stacy Stine, Mayor Pro Tempore

  
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Sarah Karl, City Clerk