

Meeting called to order at 5:00 P.M.

President S. Koski opened the meeting.

Present at Roll Call: Paul Stark, Jeannine Mayo, Tony Cerroni, Tim Olson, Sandy Johnson, John Westman and Scott Koski

Also Present: LeAnn LeClaire, Village Manager
Diane Mayo, Village Clerk
Irvin Smith, Chief of Police
Brett Niemi, WPPI Energy

Motion made by J. Westman seconded by T. Olson to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on August 11, 2026.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Paul Smith, Baraga Hockey President, was present to discuss the Baraga Recreational Building. The Village Recreation Committee had met with several hockey board members previously to discuss the needed repairs at the rink. The committee recommended taking a year off from opening the rink until there is a plan in place to fund the needed improvements. There is ice time available at the L'Anse rink to accommodate the hockey players. The figure skaters have their ice time already scheduled at the L'Anse Rink. P. Smith stated he would like to keep the Baraga ice rink open for this season. J. Westman stated the mold situation needs to be remedied before the building can even be opened. However that is not the only problem. P. Stark noted that only one of three compressors is working and might break down at any time. S. Johnson said she would like to keep the ice rink open but it is a large expense to the Village. J. Westman said the Village would get an estimate to find out the cost of the mold removal. However, he highly recommended the hockey team schedules ice time at the L'Anse Ice Rink.

Motion made by P. Stark seconded by T. Olson to approve Change Order No. 4 for the Village of Baraga CWSRF Wastewater System Improvements Project. The Change Order is needed for contract price adjustments due to the need to open cut the 4 inch sewer force main along US 41, due to the presence of high bedrock which is preventing installation by directional bore. There will be an increase of \$92,000.00 which will bring the new contract price to \$3,768,945.00.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried

Brett Niemi, WPPI Energy, was present to discuss a rate study. The revenue matches the budget and cash reserves are strong. No rate increases are recommended at this time. Annual PCAC

collections will account for \$250,000.00 of annual revenue. It was recommended to roll this revenue into base rates. It was confirmed with AMI data commercial/industrial customers can be charged more accordingly to how they incur cost to the utility. It was recommended that the Village of Baraga implement those demand changes.

Motion made by P. Stark seconded by S. Johnson to accept the proposed rate change designs presented by WPPI Energy.

Ayes: P. Stark, T. Olson S. Johnson and J. Westman

Nays: J. Mayo and T. Cerroni

Motion carried

The Police Report was given by I. Smith, Chief of Police . Forty-two complaints were received in the month of August. One felony arrest was made. Two hundred sixty-five property checks were completed.

L. LeClaire, Village Manager, gave the Manager Report. The audit has been completed by A. Cedric & Michaels, CPAs. Michael Grentz, CPA, will attend a meeting in the near future to discuss the audit. Three board member from the museum and their architect had a meeting with L. LeClaire and Dony Ison. The museum's representatives requested a break on the 3-phase transformer installation. The cost is \$41,912.00. L. LeClaire explained to them that since they are doing the upgrade, it is the policy of the Village of Baraga that the museum is responsible for the price for time and materials. The basketball court lines are painted at the Capul Recreational Park and the fence installation will start on September 11. Scott Koski and LeAnn LeClaire will attend the annual WPPI conference in Sheboygan on September 16 thru September 18.

The DPW Report was given by L. LeClaire, Village Manager. New electric and water pedestals were installed at the Marina. Sidewalks were poured at the gate entrances. DDA workers also hauled sand for winter salt. The Lagoon Project was completed. The new lagoon was filled. However , the new lagoon has a leak and the contractor is coming back to fix the problem. Miss Digs were completed for MDOT signs and the water and sewer project. Two used plow trucks from the government auction site were purchased for a price of \$1,500.00 each.

Motion made by T. Olson seconded by S. Johnson to pay the bills when the monies become available.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried

Motion made by P. Stark seconded by J. Westman to adjourn.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 P.M. on September, 2026.

Submitted by Diane Mayo, Village Clerk