

Special Council Meeting  
08/22/2019  
7:00 PM  
Municipal Building

Don Gephart, Chad Hollon, Reilly Hopkins, Richard Simpson and Cindy Sutton were present. Mayor John Carman presided over the meeting.

**HOLLON/SIMPSON: Motion to excuse Gary Bauer from meeting. All voted yea.**

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**GEPHART/HOLLON: Motion to approve agenda as presented. All voted yea.**

#### **HEALTH CARE INSURANCE**

Mayor reintroduced Chris Pratt of Horan Associates. Chris presented Council with a comparison between current health insurance and a proposal example from Horan. He reviewed the Village's current cost and stated that the current plan, while rich in nature, was outdated for the most part compared to most modern insurance plans and the Village was overdue for a reevaluation of the insurance plan. He mentioned monthly reports should be provided to the Village examining current claims statuses and how these affect the Village financially. He spoke in depth on the entity pool of insurance. He mentioned that the next step for the Village would be to renew with their current program (Avalon/Employee Benefit Services), but to consider the possibility of changing the agent of record. Mayor asked if the agent of record was to change, if the Village be locked-in permanently. He stated that the Village could at any time change the agent of record. He stated if the Village were to change their minds in the middle of the year, there would be no obligation to pay a penalty to the agent of record for pulling out early. Mayor mentioned that Horan would have a team of employees helping to resolve any issues that would bypass the Fiscal Office. Don stated that employees should not ever have to go to the Fiscal Office, but should be calling the customer service number provided on the back of their insurance card. Chris ensured that in a self-funded situation, Horan would be very transparent on their fees. Discussion centered around the consortium with local governments. Chris clarified in order to enlarge an entity's circle to reduce the overall risk, this is what happens in a consortium. When other governments join together, the risk is lowered. Don stated the school board went with a consortium and it costed the school over \$100,000. Ram asked if there were any other way to save costs. Chris stated there are other self-funded pools that are available. He stated that the Village may be able to save enough to contribute to an HRA (health reimbursement arrangement) for employees to help fund the higher deductible that could be funded by the employer. Ram repeated the employees would not like to increase their portion of the premium. Mayor stated that health insurance is a benefit for working for the Village; Council does not wish to give the employees a huge burden of healthcare withholding increase.

**HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to adopt Resolution 2019.022, Resolution Renewing the Contract with Avalon (Employee Benefit Service Center) as the Village of Blanchester's Third-Party Administrator. Roll call was made. All voted yea.**

#### **TRASH COLLECTION**

Mayor reminded Council that the trash collection was up for renewal and that Drew Watson had sent some proposals for a plan including recycling. Mayor restated he does not want to have to pass along the cost to the residents. Reilly stated he thought it was apparent that to keep from increasing the cost to the Village each month, they should go with 1-year contract only.

**HOLLON/HOPKINS: Motion to adopt Resolution 2019.027, Resolution Allowing the Mayor to Sign Agreement with Rumpke for Collection and Disposal of Garbage and Refuse. Roll call was made. All voted yea.**

**HOPKINS/HOLLON: Motion to adjourn. All voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.**

Approved: September 12, 2019

Mayor: John M. Cannon

Attest: Shelia Cardel