

## **CITY OF BEULAH**

**April 13, 2022, 6:00 pm**

**Remote Council Meeting by GoToMeeting**

### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Beulah City Council was called to order at 6:04 pm by Mayor Travis Frey with Council Members Kathy Kelsch, Gary Miller, David Ripplinger and Amanda Mohl present. Sean Cheatley, Ben Lenzen, David Czywczynski and Eric Hoffer absent.

Also Present: Assistant City Attorney Jennifer Gooss, City Engineer Charlie Hankins, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Gary Bovkoon, Economic Development Beaver Brinkman, Police Chief Frank Senn, City Assessor Heidi Hamelton, City Auditor Heather Ferebee, Roger Gazur, Jeff Gooss and Editor Alyssa Meier.

### **HEARING**

The hearing was opened to amend the district map. The zoning is being changed on three parcels to C4, located west of New Energy Drive. It will be New Energy Second Addition. The area around Concordia Church is being replatted to remove Parkway Drive. This is a correction. West Keller Drive will be replatted into 39 lots and the zoning will be changed to C3. This zoning change includes the total area of the RV Park, including the homes located there. Miller moved to accept the zoning district map changes. Kelsch seconded. Roll call vote found Miller, Kelsch, Ripplinger and Mohl in favor. The hearing was closed.

### **COUNCIL**

Kelsch moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting on March 23 and approve as furnished to the Council by email. Ripplinger seconded. Roll call vote found Kelsch, Ripplinger, Mohl and Miller in favor.

Frey declared an Emergency for the blizzard for the City of Beulah. Mohl moved to accept the Emergency Declaration for the blizzard of April 2022. Kelsch seconded. Roll call vote found Mohl, Kelsch, Ripplinger and Miller in favor. City Hall will be closed until Monday. There is no garbage service until Monday. The Transfer Station is closed until Monday.

### **COUNCIL PORTFOLIOS**

#### Council Member Mohl

Mohl addressed the emergency routes during the blizzard. It was stated that there are a lot of areas not being cleared for emergency vehicles. Frey stated he is in contact with Public Works and they are doing everything they can to clear emergency routes. They started at 4:00 am and ran until 4:00 pm. They are working in shifts and plan to start again at 10:00 pm and work through the night. People have been escorted to Knife River Care Center for work. The county has not

attempted to remove snow yet. Hazen put out a notice to equipment owners in the city, and this is something Beulah could do also. They would need to sign something stating they are working for the city. The amount discussed is \$130 per hour for equipment to assist city personnel. Mohl questioned the emergency action plan for the city. Senn stated there is a plan in place, but there is no travel advised. There is a plan for emergency response in the Police Dept. Currently, the public should not be out because vehicles are getting stuck in the intersections and causing more of a burden for the response and cleanup. Because of the high winds, the roads that are cleared are not cleared for long. The state and county have pulled plows. The emergency services will be slowed because of the blizzard, but there will be emergency services. It was stated our Public Works department is only so big and only has so much equipment.

#### Council Member Kelsch

Discussion continued on the implementation of help from the community or contractors. Authorize the city to accept help from a public citizen. Anyone you know who has that ability, we could communicate with them. Liability waiver was questioned. If they are doing it for the city, the city would be responsible. If the city is hiring them, they are doing it on behalf of the city. If they are injured, they can't hold the city responsible. Gooss stated they would be considered an independent contractor. It would be more beneficial if they are a business. A certificate of insurance was discussed, and it was stated that a waiver of subrogation would be easy to add. Kelsch moved to proceed with allowing independent contractors to assist with snow removal for the city at a rate of \$130 per equipment hour. Miller seconded. Public Works should help direct people who and where to go so there are not conflicts. It was stated the rate is to cover a skidsteer, there would need to be another rate for larger equipment. Roll call vote found Kelsch, Miller, Mohl and Ripplinger in favor. Gooss stated she will draft two waivers.

### **CITY PERSONNEL**

#### Water/Wastewater Superintendent

The High Service Pump parts came in, so that is being worked on.

#### City Auditor

Kelsch moved to accept the March financial reports. Miller seconded. Roll call vote found Kelsch, Miller, Mohl and Ripplinger in favor. Ripplinger moved to approve the site authorization for American Foundation for Wildlife at Alibis Inc. from 7-1-22 to 6-30-23. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Ripplinger, Mohl, Kelsch and Miller in favor.

#### Economic Development Director

The auction for lots will be May 2 at 1:00 pm at the Civic Center. It was requested that a minimum be set on the land of the former landfill north of Beulah. The other lots have a set minimum based on the survey fees and legal fees paid for replatting the lots. It was stated the city has the right to accept or reject any bids. If an acceptable bid is not received, it would be leased out for grazing. Gooss stated that the decision for accepting or rejecting the bid would not be made the day of the auction on that property. It would go to the next council meeting for approval.

The old nursing home is being considered for a library and daycare center.

The CVB Agreement for Sun Valley RV Park is being reviewed by Solem Law. They would like to make some revisions so it will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

City Assessor

Proposed Building Permit Fee Schedule: The city currently charges based on the project cost. The proposal is to break it down based on the type of project being done. P&Z is recommending the change. The fees will be set by resolution, which will be presented at the next meeting. It was stated that the fine of \$1,000 for an infraction for not obtaining a building permit is large and not pursued. It may be better to have a stepped fee or a mandatory minimum. This will be addressed at a later date as it will require an ordinance change.

iWorQ will go live April 25. The Placard and Certificate of Occupancy was presented.

City Engineer

Base bid packages for annual street repairs will be sent out with a due date of May 6. An additive alternate bid will be added for the public repairs that they will be responsible for. The bids will be opened on May 11 at the council meeting. Mohl moved to approve Interstate Engineering to go out for bids on annual street repairs. Miller seconded. Roll call vote found Mohl, Miller, Kelsch and Ripplinger in favor.

Police Chief

7th Street NE Siren Relocation. This is being requested by MDU because of the location of the MDU substation. It would be moved at MDU's expense. It is currently on their property by easement. It is requested that moving the siren be coordinated with the Police Dept. or Hamelton. Mohl moved to give authorization to MDU to move the siren at MDU's expense with coordination with the PD and Hamelton. Miller seconded. Roll call vote found Mohl, Miller, Ripplinger and Kelsch in favor. Body cams will be purchased soon.

City Attorney

Process of amendments to the zoning ordinance. Miller stated that this was tabled and was going to be brought up at this meeting, but it will remain tabled until the next meeting.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Kelsch moved to pay the bills as presented and reviewed. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Kelsch, Mohl, Ripplinger and Miller in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

  
Travis Frey, Mayor

  
Heather Ferebee, City Auditor

**The following bills were approved and paid in March:**

Check Range: 41523 to 41603, -99736

Payroll Check Range: -75223 to -75123, 41550, 41594, 41601

Employees	83349.07	Frank Senn	450.25
FIT	14465.89	Frontier Precision, Inc.	12965.74
NDPERS 457	297.50	Midco	119.70
HEALTH INS	34856.18	Lignite Tire	4729.00
METLIFE	1048.87	Aramark	568.24
FIT	12349.93	Farmers Union Oil Company	6762.63
NDPERS 457	297.50	Bronson's Marketplace	161.22
NDPERS Main	5481.84	AE2S, LLC	8926.18
NDPERS Main 2020	1734.16	AE Operations, LLC	3901.58
NDPERS PD	4098.74	The Beacon	1283.58
SIT	3060.07	Jeffrey Gooss	93.60
Unemployment	264.12	The Hub Convenience Stores	885.86
MN Child Support	171.66	Adam Baker	78.07
MN Child Support	171.66	Western Steel Builders Inc	47854.00
NY Life	3861.30	Home Connection, LLC	8925.37
Principal Life Insurance Co	317.55	VESSCO, INC	1562.56
Marco Technologies LLC	155.60	Productivity Plus Account	32.90
Beulah Lumber Company	110.00	Powerplan	143.52
Downtown Gas & Auto	5347.74	DetectaChem, Inc.	167.05
Millennium Express	28.60	Police Chiefs Association	110.00
American Express	268.22	Mercer County Highway Dept	131.60
Hawkins Inc.	4556.47	Nelson International	638.00
MDU	13862.97	Dakota Pump & Control, Inc	162.79
City of Beulah	185.31	The Union Bank	37337.38
iWorQ	12500.00	NAPA Auto Parts	777.82
JESSICA ABERLE	50.00	NDDEQ	127.08
Eric Bothun	50.00	USA Blue Book	1363.26
Beulah Lumber Company	72.50	Conway, Deuth & Schmiesing	1550.00
Keil Enterprises	249.00	InterOffice - Fargo	23402.13
ND League of Cities	30.00	Beulah Park District	25619.88
North Dakota Dept of Health	64.00	J & M Hardware Inc	184.84
Mercer County Treasurer	5499.60	Solem Law Office	5865.17
Beulah JDA	11236.65	Mark A. Kaffar	600.00
Roughrider Electric Coop	3586.10	Interstate Engineering, Inc	7816.00
West River Telephone	1534.23	Interstate Engineering, Inc	7503.78
Beulah Airport Authority	11236.65	Beulah Park District	4599.61
US Bank	846.88	Beulah Airport Authority	1238.36
Information Technology Dept	263.20	AT&T Mobility	735.98
James Wenning	70.00		

Interstate Engineering, Inc	3980.00
Frontier Precision, Inc.	19.00
William Elmore	94.50
Gary Bovkoon	149.60
Marlin Block	56.00
Terry Ochsner	25.00
Beulah Senior Center	884.54
Starion Bond Services	75846.25
Starion Bond Services	62755.00
Waste Management	702.88
Bill Barth Ford	587.94
Petty Cash	5.80
Starion Bond Services	53198.75
Postmaster	375.14
Nancy Bickerstaff	16.98