

## **CITY OF BEULAH**

**December 14, 2022, 6:00 pm**

**Beulah City Hall Council Chambers**

### **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Beulah City Council was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Jeff Gooss with Council Members Gary Miller, Sean Cheatley, Auston Biles, David Czywczynski, Jason Isaak, Ben Lenzen and Amanda Mohl present. Eric Hoffer absent.

Also Present: City Attorney Scott Solem, Economic Development Beaver Brinkman, Water Superintendent Gary Bovkoon, Police Chief Frank Senn, City Engineer Charlie Hankins, City Assessor Heidi Hamelton, City Auditor Heather Ferebee, Editor Bill Schmalfeldt.

Cheatley moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting on November 21 and approve as furnished to the Council by email. Biles seconded. A change will be made to clarify the letter of understanding between the City and the Beulah CVB for the loan for the Civic Center improvements. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Miller, Mohl, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

### **COUNCIL PORTFOLIOS**

#### Council Member Cheatley

Employee Personnel Policy updates are recommended by the Employee Relations Committee:

1. NDPHIT health insurance will offer an Employee Assistance Program or EAP starting January 1, 2023.
2. Change of the limit for Sick Leave to be used as Family Sick Leave from 40 hours per year to 80 hours per year.
3. Sworn Police Officers will recognize Easter Sunday as the holiday instead of Good Friday and they will use the actual date of all other holidays instead of a Monday or Friday as listed for other employees.
4. If a part time employee is called in to work during an emergency on a holiday, that employee will receive double time just as full-time employees do.

Cheatley moved to approve the Employee Personnel Policy with the changes presented. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Mohl, Biles, Czywczynski, Miller, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

Cheatley moved to approve leave without pay for Heidi Hamelton in January. Isaak seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Isaak, Biles, Czywczynski, Miller, Mohl and Lenzen in favor.

It was questioned if there could be a couple radios in the loaders and Public Works trucks for fire and EMS to contact them. It was stated that one of the new portable radios is \$5,100. It may be possible that the old radios from the PD could be used for this purpose on a different channel.

### Council Member Mohl

The Pool Board is waiting on more quotes for repairs to the pool plaster.

The bike path funding was approved from the state. The Transportation Alternatives Program grant is the same grant that was in place in 2016 when the project was originally bid out. The grant changed so there is no cap on it now. The grant would cover 80.93% of construction costs with the amount of \$903,173 approved as a grant. This does not include consulting fees. This part of the bike path plan is the most expensive since it is in the floodway along Hwy. 49. Hankins commented the plans could be changed from the original design to cut down on project costs and move the path away from the highway. Construction does not need to happen until 2025 for this grant, but it needs to be decided by December 30, 2022 if the city will accept the grant. An engineering estimate for redesign would be \$80,000 to \$100,000. Gooss clarified that the maximum cost to the city with the redesign would be roughly \$312,000. There is a better understanding of the limit for the path, and it would be better to relocate the path away from the highway. There would be some right of way easement acquisitions needed in the area of the bike path. Mohl moved to allow Interstate Engineering to redesign the bike path and move it to the east. Miller seconded. It was requested to look at more than one design so that the easements might not be needed. Isaak questioned when the Interstate redesign expenses would need to be paid. Hankins stated the redesign could start in 2024. Mohl moved to amend the motion to accept the TA grant offered by the state. Miller seconded. Roll call vote on the amendment found Mohl, Miller, Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Lenzen and Isaak in favor. Roll call vote on the motion as amended found Mohl, Miller, Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

### Council Member Biles

The Equipment Committee discussed the option of renting a loader for Public Works for 5-6 months in the winter. It would be a new piece of equipment that matches the current fleet, with maintenance included. RDO will charge \$40 per equipment hour with a base rental rate of \$2,800 per month, but it may end up being \$3,000 to \$3,500 per month. Gooss stated that Hoffer and Yeager are in favor. It was stated that having the loader could save 25% snow clearing time. There is not an amount budgeted, but the budget amount for a future dump truck could be used. Isaak moved to table it until December 28 with more information needed. Biles seconded. It was discussed that the city might need to decide on this if it is available as they are in high demand. Discussion followed. Isaak moved to amend the motion to proceed with a rental of a John Deere 624 Loader from RDO from 12-15-22 to 5-3-23. Biles seconded. Roll call vote on the amendment found Isaak, Biles, Miller, Cheatley, Czywczynski, Mohl and Lenzen in favor. Roll call vote on the motion as amended found Isaak, Biles, Miller, Cheatley, Czywczynski, Mohl and Lenzen in favor.

### Council Member Czywczynski

Snow removal update was provided.

### Mayor Gooss

The Lignite Veteran's Memorial Park response has been a success. The Lignite Energy Council pledged a donation for the renderings and drawings. Interstate Engineering and WSB Engineering

plan to work on a 3D drawing and site plan for the park. Faces of ND Coal have pledged a large donation also. North American Coal also plans to pledge a donation after member approval. Cheatley questioned the area of the park and whether it could be moved to another location with a better view. It was stated the location was chosen as a logical place for the council to approve and to revitalize the southside of Beulah. An area on 16<sup>th</sup> Street is also an option. Discussion followed.

## **CITY PERSONNEL**

### Water Wastewater Superintendent

One of the Water Plant employees will help move snow. MDU had a one-hour power outage on Monday, and it was a difficult process to get the plant going again. The Water Plant is in need of a generator.

### City Auditor

Isaak moved to approve the November Financial Reports. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Isaak, Mohl, Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Miller and Lenzen in favor.

Miller moved to approve the local permit for a 50/50 raffle for the Beulah Education Foundation at the Beulah High School from January 3 to February 25, 2023. Cheatley seconded. Roll call vote found Miller, Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Mohl, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

### Economic Development Director

Preliminary plans for the library and daycare were presented. A grant was applied for. Water and wastewater usage report from AE2S was presented to council. The lighting grant was received for City Hall. USDA will be invited to Beulah to discuss grant programs, including the generator grant.

### City Engineer

Main Street Project details were presented. Repayment through utility rates using SRF funding was discussed. The project costs are roughly \$6.3 million. The city has approximately \$1.5 million in MIF and ARPA funds that will be applied to the project. That leaves \$4.8 million needed for bonding of the project.

An increase of utility rates could take place over two years, with an increase of rates by \$5 every six months for a total of \$20. There are other options such as assessing part of the project. Infrastructure needs of the community were looked at, as well as what is available to the city as a revenue source and repayment source. This project is phase one. The second phase will draw people off of Hwy. 49 to the downtown district. The loan application needs to be submitted to repay the city for expenses already paid to Interstate Engineering. It was questioned if the rate amounts need to be decided on now. Hankins stated that the amount does not need to be decided on now. Czywczynski moved to approve Interstate Engineering to go out for bids on the first phase of the Main Street Project. Isaak seconded. Czywczynski, Isaak, Biles, Miller, Cheatley, Lenzen, Mohl in favor. Mohl moved to approve using utility fees as a repayment source for the first phase

of the Main Street Project. Miller seconded. Roll call vote found Mohl, Miller, Cheatley, Biles, Czywczynski, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

Police Chief

Adam Baker will be out for medical reasons.


City Attorney

Garbage Truck Lease Resolution 2022-09. This is a 3-year lease to purchase at 5.69% with annual payments of \$75,771.00. Isaak moved to approve Resolution 2022-09. Biles seconded. Roll call vote found Isaak, Biles, Cheatley, Miller, Mohl and Lenzen in favor. Czywczynski absent on the vote. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

Biles moved to pay bills as presented and reviewed. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Biles, Mohl, Cheatley, Czywczynski, Miller, Lenzen and Isaak in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.



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Jeff Gooss, Mayor



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Heather Ferebee, City Auditor

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

Check Range: 42395 to 42506, -99715

Payroll Check Range: -74449 to -74376, 42482, 42483

Employees	89179.34	Downtown Gas & Auto	6365.92
Medicare	25.34	North Dakota One Call Inc	28.60
FIT	12948.29	Revize LLC	1200.00
NDPERS 457	297.50	Beulah JDA	239.38
HEALTH INS	35589.79	West River Telephone	1525.43
METLIFE	1048.20	Beulah Airport Authority	239.38
NDPERS 457	297.50	AE2S, LLC	116.94
FIT	16038.41	AE Operations, LLC	4291.15
NDPERS Main	4870.22	MDU	11925.00
NDPERS Main 2020	2381.84	Marco Technologies LLC	159.66
NDPERS PD	4317.10	US Bank	720.00
NY Life Insurance Company	3861.30	Information Technology Dept	276.45
Andrew Nesper	152.93	Findaway	19.99
Principal Life Insurance Co	400.95	MicroMarketing LLC	223.18
Petty Cash	17.00	Powerplan	118.33
Mercer County Treasurer	7253.20		

Regents of University of Minn	90.00	Cengage Learning	280.23
Waste Management	1405.76	Baker & Taylor	649.49
Roughrider Electric Coop	3546.70	Sanford Health Occup Med	35.00
Mark A. Kaffar	600.00	NDACo Resources Group	310.16
Aramark	420.56	Lignite Energy Council	200.00
USA Blue Book	466.13	Post Board	135.00
Hawkins Inc.	2041.33	MicroMarketing LLC	307.78
The Beacon	537.08	J & M Hardware Inc	9.35
The Hub Convenience Stores	7.99	Penworthy	260.50
Alma Conlon	50.00	Radar Shop	494.00
Nathan Brunsell	50.00	Mercer Co Sheriff's Dept	100.00
Dawn & Allen Holcomb	9.61	Beulah Public School Dist	400.00
Dale Pahlke	17.66	Neuberger Oil Co.	1275.00
Seth & Rebecca Larson	32.87	Michael Todd Company	1141.60
Larry Lueck	75.00	Mitch Mattheis	440.00
ND Water Users Association	300.00	Mandate Truck Center	1328.71
Petty Cash	209.68	Hazen Welding	2841.10
American Engineering Testing	1255.75	Dakota Supply Group	771.42
NSC Minerals	3145.02	Lucky's Towing & Repair	1600.00
Dakota Pump & Control, Inc	613.54	NAPA Auto Parts	524.70
Display Sales	1613.00	Lignite Tire	1714.00
Stein's Inc	237.20	Custer Health	75.00
Ferguson Enterprises LLC	25.00	Farmers Union Oil Company	5199.12
Dakota Fire Extinguishers	543.18	Computer Projects of Il. Inc.	600.00
WARC	1578.49	Pro Forms	117.67
West River Telephone	110.38	Auto Value Beulah	31.99
NDDEQ	1575.44	Butler Machinery Company	119.80
J & M Hardware Inc	613.96	MARC	4676.89
Aramark	53.68	Beulah Park District	25747.01
Solem Law Office	5498.15	City of Beulah	325.04
Bronson's Marketplace	132.60	BNSF Railway Company	415.27
American Express	1444.88	Millennium Express	37.65
Advanced Elements Op	5000.00	Beulah Park District	6385.85
Interstate Engineering, Inc	3592.94	Beulah Senior Center	1228.05
AT&T Mobility	775.62	Beulah Airport Authority	1719.27
AT&T Mobility	43.23	James Wenning	105.00
Frank Senn	205.00	USA Blue Book	353.00
Coal Country CHC	26.00	Nancy Bickerstaff	6.42
Jessie Mann	172.16	Saber Shred Solutions, Inc.	5853.50
Bronson's Marketplace	86.29	ND League of Cities	1260.00

MinnKota EnviroServices	866.98
Clay's Plumbing & Heating	4672.70
Uniform Center	405.52
SPEE-DEE Delivery Service	40.94
Environmental Toxicity Cont	1750.00
Pulse	1931.00
Bobcat of Mandan, Inc	883.42
Vanguard Appraisals Inc	2480.00
Smart Apple Media	121.86
Willow Lane	331.88
Cengage Learning	279.44
Postmaster	275.00
Postmaster	398.49