

CITY OF BEULAH

January 25, 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 Travis Frey with Council Members Sean Cheatley, David Ripplinger, Ben Lenzen and Amanda Mohl present. Kathy Kelsch, Eric Hoffer, Gary Miller and Dave Czywczynski absent.

Also Present: City Engineer Charlie Hankins, City Attorney Scott Solem, Water Superintendent Gary Bovkoon, Public Works Superintendent Kenny Yeager, Economic Development Beaver Brinkman, Police Chief Frank Senn, Assessor Technician Heidi Hamelton, City Auditor Heather Ferebee and Editor Claudette Olivier.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Cheatley moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting on January 12, 2022 and approve as furnished to the Council by email. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Mohl, Ripplinger, Lenzen in favor.

COUNCIL PORTFOLIOS

Council Member Cheatley

Cheatley moved to go forward with the new garbage truck and to sign the form to get on the list for delivery. Ripplinger seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Ripplinger, Mohl, Lenzen in favor. An estimate on the repair of the old garbage truck was discussed. The Fire Department elected Doug Moore as Assistant Chief.

Mayor Frey

The Fireworks Ordinance will need to be updated this year. The sale of fireworks is not allowed in town currently and that could be reconsidered. The possibility to allow discharge of fireworks on New Year's Eve with a set time limit was brought up.

Project Finance Options: A meeting was held with Scott Wegner last week regarding the options for funding the Special Improvement District.

The Municipal Landfill was closed in 1995 and is about two miles north of the city. There is a party interested in the property. Because it was a landfill, the owner can't dig or place buildings on it. The Health Dept. stated that the cap needs to be maintained.

CITY PERSONNEL

Police Chief

Emergency Preparedness: A Ferrellgas 30,000 gallon propane tank was leaking in Industrial Park. As required a phone number was posted, but the officer was on hold for 30 minutes and then didn't receive information. The Fire Dept. was able to stop the leak. Ferrellgas does not have an office in Hazen anymore and Ferrellgas didn't know who to contact. As a city we should identify hazards and start an emergency preparedness list. Entities should be accountable for their property.

City Attorney

Ordinance No. 442 Amending the Zoning District Map. Mohl moved to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 442. Lenzen seconded. Roll call vote found Mohl, Lenzen, Cheatley, Ripplinger in favor.

Ordinance No. 443 making the CVB the Visitor's Committee with respect to the Lodging, Restaurant and Motor Vehicle Tax. Lenzen moved to have the second reading of Ordinance No. 443. Cheatley seconded. Roll call vote found Lenzen, Cheatley, Mohl, Ripplinger in favor.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent

The VFD will be installed tomorrow to help with the problem of wells shutting down. Letters for backflow prevention were sent out.

City Auditor

Changes were sent out for the end of the year financials to include two new funds. Cheatley moved to establish two new funds: 3210 – Comprehensive Corridor Plan and 3220 – GIS Project. Lenzen seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Lenzen, Mohl, Ripplinger in favor.

2021 year-end financial reports, transfers, and budget amendments were presented. Transfers were made for debt service funds, for payments made on bonds, and reserve requirements. Transfers were also made for budget allocations, projects, negative fund balances for overages, and special assessments. Annual transfers were made from enterprise funds (water, sewer, garbage) as allowed by NDCC to help fund the General fund. Lenzen moved to approve the 2021 year-end budget amendments, transfers and financial reports. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Lenzen, Mohl, Cheatley, Ripplinger in favor.

Economic Development Director

Notice for the sale of 11th Street lots was presented. Adjacent property owners are being given first opportunity to bid. If the lots are not sold, they will be sold at auction on May 2. Notice for the sale of Keller Drive (Sun Valley) Storage lots was also presented. The auction for these lots will be at 1:00 pm on May 2. Cheatley moved to approve notices and advertising for the sale of the lots as presented. Lenzen seconded. Roll call vote found Cheatley, Lenzen, Mohl, Ripplinger in favor.

MCED is requesting \$5,000 as a membership fee to assist with funding of grant writing. Lenzen moved to approve the membership fee of \$5,000. Mohl seconded. Roll call vote found Lenzen, Mohl, Cheatley, Ripplinger in favor. Proceeds from property sales can be used to fund this fee.

Assessor Technician

The Camavision computer program has been installed. Vanguard will be here Friday to train on the assessor system. NDAAO will have a workshop in Fargo. Permit and inspection tracking software was presented at P&Z. The objective is coordinating the inspection process with Interstate Engineering. Individuals would be able to pay for permits online and code enforcement is available. It would create efficiency for the Police Dept. as well to have the system online. Quotes on the programs will be sent to council.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.



Travis Frey, Mayor



Heather Ferebee, City Auditor