

APRIL 18, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Michael Carpenter presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Mark Dunn, Patrick Haynes, and Daryl Schlapkohl were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper, Jason Overby with Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water, Curtis Rethwisch, and Kristina Hernandez with the Lake Benton Valley Journal were also present.

Mayor Michael Carpenter called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then asked if anyone in attendance had an item, not on the agenda, to bring up during the Open Forum part of the meeting. If so they had two minutes to state their concern. No items were brought forward at this time.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2022 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 4, 2022. Motion carried. The minutes of the Special Board of Review Meeting of April 12, 2022 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Review Meeting of April 12, 2022. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

ITC	\$	320.07	L-P RURAL WATER	\$	3,948.89
EXPRESSWAY	\$	664.27	POSTMASTER	\$	131.60
CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$	186.85	S & E AUTO	\$	20.00
MN POLLUTION CONTROL	\$	1,450.00	CHAMBER-CVB	\$	623.52
SOUTHWEST SANITATION	\$	3,710.58	BANNER ASSOCIATES	\$	7,046.00
CARDMEMBER	\$	682.01	ONE OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$	90.75
BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$	170.35	KIBBLE EQUIPMENT	\$	180.70
MIKE CZECH	\$	43.58	DANNY KROTZER	\$	468.00

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve payment of the claims presented against the City of Lake Benton. Motion carried and the Mayor authorized the City Administrator/Clerk to make payment.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper informed the Council Banner Associates reviewed, approved and delivered the executed contract from A & C Excavating for the Harrison Street and Mork Street Extension for the Mayor's signature.

Empire Pipe Services was hired to clean the sewer lines, televise and inspect the manholes. Empire Pipe is scheduled to come this Wednesday, weather pending.

Ottertail Power is redesigning their substation located west of the Maintenance Building on Benton Street. Ottertail Power requested additional property by their current substation. However, the City has a force main that runs through the property and Todd talked with the Engineer who informed him the City should keep 25' on each side of the main east of the substation and west of the drainage ditch. Ottertail surveyed the property and requested 17.5'. City Attorney Mike Cable reviewed the survey and confirmed the property belongs to the City. Ottertail has stated they will pay all expenses incurred to the legality of the property. City Attorney Mike Cable prepared a Resolution conveying the property if the City is willing to give the property to Ottertail. No public hearing is needed as it will be transferred with the Warranty Deed. Some years back, Ottertail offered to pay the City to mow their grass and remove snow which the City Council previously agreed. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the Resolution to convey 17.5' x 40' to Ottertail Power, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk's signatures. Motion carried.

MOTION by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Public Works Update. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the draft Certificate of Land Survey for Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water's (LPRW) new shop/office area. LPRW requested City officials review this document and approve if acceptable. The Certificate will be finalized after both the City and LPRW approve. LPRW is looking for the City to agree with the boundaries (eastern boundaries by the section line and County Road). This was forwarded on to City Attorney Mike Cable for review. Jason Overby, LPRW General Manager was available to answer questions from the Council.

The Council inquired about the two wetland areas and asked Jason if there were any issues and Jason assured them there are no issues in the current design concept and they were able to avoid that area. The Council then asked Jason if there are stakes in the southeast corner and Jason stated there are stakes in the wetland area, but not on the corners of the property as they are anticipating the land to be farmed this year. Jason informed the Council the survey shows the eastern boundary line meeting with 190th Avenue, which will assist in creating streets in the future. Lincoln-Lyon Electric has a utility easement from the County Road to the former Edgewood Bluff. Jason then informed the Council that the LPRW Board is meeting next Monday to approve the survey and would like the Council's approval this evening. The City Attorney can then draw up the deed to transfer the property to LPRW. Due to the fact the City and LPRW are each a government entity, no public hearing is needed. **MOTION** by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Certificate of Land Survey for Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water's new shop/office area subject to approval by legal counsel. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on city licenses for May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen provided the Council with information on the liquor and tobacco licenses for the City as well as the temporary liquor and dance licenses for the Fireman's Dance from 8:00 PM on June 18, 2022 through 1:00 AM June 19, 2022. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen also stated the Sheriff needs to sign the Liquor applications so she can get them sent into the state before May 1, 2022. Sheriff Chad Meester performed a background check and signed the necessary applications. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the following City Licenses for May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023 with proof of liability insurance from those with On Sale Liquor Licenses: **Cigarette:** Express Way – Lake Benton, **Off Sale Beer:** Express Way – Lake Benton; **On Sale Liquor:** Country House Supper Club and Lake Benton Resort; **On Sale Liquor (Sunday):** Country House Supper Club and Lake Benton Resort; **Off Sale Liquor:** Lake Benton Resort; and to approve the Temporary Liquor and Dance Licenses to the Lake Benton Fire Department at 110 Benton Street for the Fireman's Dance from 8:00 PM on June 18, 2022 through 1:00 AM on June 19, 2022. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the 2022 contract for mowing the north ditch at cemetery hill for a 15% increase at \$328.60 per time not to exceed seven (7) times or \$2,300.20. Mike Otto mowed the hill last year at a cost of \$285.75 per time not to exceed seven (7) times or \$2,000.25. If the ditch needs to be mowed more often Mike will contact the Mayor for approval. Mike also provided proof of liability insurance. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the 2022 contract with Mike Otto to mow the north ditch at cemetery hill to include a 15% increase at \$328.60 per time not to exceed seven (7) times or \$2,300.20. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Dunn – No report.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and the April Business of the Month is Garden Gate, and the May Business of the Month will be the Resort. The Diners Club \$3.00 meals are on hold until COVID is more controlled. The Opera House had it first production of the year the first two weekends in April and they had 754 attendees throughout the six shows. The summer production at the Opera House will be "Newsies" the end of July. Saddle Horse weekend is scheduled June 17-19 and plans are underway.

Trustee Patrick Haynes – The EDA met several times in the past few weeks regarding the new duplex units and preapproving funds for Jared Rouge to purchase materials to build the duplex units. Work is moving forward on the 4-Plex units with new exterior doors, blown insulation in the attics and shingling the east 4-Plex roof through the Rehab Grant Program. The cement may be poured for the new duplex units this fall and multiple parties are interested in renting. The Council was reminded of the special meeting with the City and EDA on April 21, 2022 at 5:30 PM at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center regarding the duplex units.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – The Opera House met last week and their first production was good as they grossed \$9,380.00. Daryl then went on to inform the Council three members resigned from the Opera House Board with Mark Wilmes being one of them. There seems to be a lot of confrontation between the members and it is sad to have this happen. Mark Wilmes has put his heart and soul into the Opera House over the past 30 years with directing, writing grants and keeping them financially stable. Mark will be sadly missed. Al Riedel will be the director for the summer production. Daryl will attend the next Opera House board meeting on May 12, 2022 and report to the Council at the second regular meeting in May.

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the Committee Reports. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

The Event Center security system is out of date and not working properly. Updating the system is good for liability reasons and worthwhile to fix. Danny found a replacement system that can use the same cables we already have for \$399.00 and it comes with a number of new cameras with higher resolution. This can be installed for approximately \$50.00 to \$100.00. The Event Center currently has six (6) cameras at the entrances and in the main areas and the new system can support up to eight (8) cameras and can be motion activated. **MOTION** by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve updating the security system at the Event Center for approximately \$500.00. Motion carried.

Clean up week is scheduled the first week of May (May 2-6), and appliance pick-up is scheduled for Tuesday, May 3, 2022. The rabies clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022 from 4:00-6:00 PM at the Fire Hall.

MOTION by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Administrator/Clerk Report. Motion carried.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council the Chamber is looking for donations for the Fireworks display during Saddle Horse weekend.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then informed the Council it is storm season and he felt it would be beneficial for the City to sponsor a meeting with the First Responders and Fire Department to inform residents of where to go when a tornado is here, what do the various siren tones mean, etc. The City could provide coffee and cookies and will be good exposure for the First Responders and the Fire Department. Trustees Daryl Schlapkohl and Mark Dunn will contact the First Responders and the Fire Department to coordinate a meeting at 7:00 PM some evening, and the City can market the meeting with important, pertinent information.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a **MOTION** was made by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl and carried, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK