

**APRIL 1, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. in the Heritage Center/City Office. Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw, Trustees Mark Dunn, Dave Enke, and Daryl Schlapkohl were present, and Mayor Bob Worth was present via telephone. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper, Police Chief Tony Sievert, Roger Rudebusch and Shelly Finzen from the Lake Benton Valley Journal were also present.

Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw 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 March 18, 2019 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 18, 2019. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:**

LB GROCERY	\$	8.76	OTTERTAIL	\$	2,780.65
TODD DRAPER	\$	32.00	PAT HAYNES	\$	250.00
MN LIFE	\$	6.80	LB CHAMBER	\$	192.00
ALVARO GARCIA	\$	500.00	BIOAG ENERGY SRVCS	\$	705.75
MARSHALL IND	\$	104.00	TROY NORDMEYER	\$	32.00
HYDRO TECH SERVICE	\$	3,050.00	DARYL SCHLAPKOHL	\$	345.00
KYLIE ROCHEL	\$	55.00	ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	\$	169.20
A & C EXCAVATING	\$	2,106.00	JON WORTH	\$	45.00
PERFORMANCE FOOD	\$	42.92	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$	2.24
KIBBLE EQUIPMENT	\$	48.12	PLUM CREEK LIBRARY	\$	175.00

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

**POLICE REPORT**

The Police Report for March was given by Police Chief Tony Sievert. Police Chief Tony Sievert informed the Council the squad is currently at Guardian Fleet Safety and awaiting a push bumper before the install will start. Guardian is aware of our current situation and will try getting it done as soon as possible. The Department is expecting to get the new squad next week. Police Chief Tony Sievert then informed the Council the Police Department will be identifying residents that are not in compliance with the City Ordinances. Tony reminded everyone to do your best to keep the community looking wonderful. Tony also stated the department has had several issues with residents not keeping their animals on a leash, and requested Shelly Finzen mention something about this issue in the newspaper.

Police Chief Tony Sievert read the total calls for the month, and the squad has 103,101 miles on it. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the March Police Report. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE**

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper informed the Council the last two weeks the maintenance department has been dealing with the thaw and running water issues, and they are currently

bypassing the sewer lift station. The City placed an ad in the paper to remind residents to make sure their sump pumps are discharging onto their yard or street curbs. The City rented A & C Excavating's 8" pump to assist with the lift station, and are now using our 4" pump that was purchased in 2001. Todd checked on pricing for a new 8" pump and it could cost up to \$49,000.00. Todd checked on used ones, but none are on the market right now. Todd contacted Bierschbach in Sioux Falls and said the used ones might be available in July. Todd has our pump on a trailer and fills the 30 gallon pump daily. This is manned 24 hours a day and we are constantly watching it. Todd said Bierschbach's has a 4" portable pump with hoses for \$3,000.00 and requested Council approval to purchase one as soon as possible. This summer the City can look into purchasing a used one for \$15,000.00. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to purchase the 4" portable pump with hoses for \$3,000.00 from Bierschbach's in Sioux Falls. Motion carried.

The ditch ways started to melt and there was a threat of flooding houses in three areas in town. The City hired A & C Excavating to dig out the ditch near the culvert located on the east end of town by Mike Otto's property. The City then hired Thomas Plumbing to use his backhoe with tracks to get the water to go towards the Lincoln County park area on Mork Addition, and to clear the ditch by Ron Petersen's. This is an abnormal year, but it is good to get them cleaned out so the threat of flooding homes diminishes.

The roadways are breaking up really bad. There are frost boils on Kent Street due to the water table being so high and garbage trucks driving on them.

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper talked with Kent Skaar with the DNR who told him the bid for the water access project came in under what they expected. The bid is over a million dollars and it was awarded today. The DNR will begin the project after July 8, 2019 and it will take two months to complete. When the DNR provides the City with the final plans, Todd will talk with them about boring another water line, the street lights, and the roads.

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper, Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen met with Gene East from MnDOT regarding the 2027 reconstruction project. The white X's on the streets are landmarks MnDOT put down so they can get aerial pictures to tie into their maps. Gene provided the City with a timeline and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will e-mail it to the Council. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the Public Works Report. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the football lease between the City and the Buffalo Ridge Wildcats. The Buffalo Ridge Wildcats would like to lease the football field from April 1, 2019 through July 31, 2019 for \$500.00. The Accidental Waiver and Release form will be completed by the members and a copy will be sent back to the City Office. The Lease states the Buffalo Ridge Wildcats will take care of the mowing and marking inside the football field playing area during the time of the lease. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the football lease between the City and the Buffalo Ridge Wildcats for April 1, 2019 through July 31, 2019. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a Resolution Accepting a Donation from Shaokatan Sportsmen's Club to the City. It was recommended to designate the donation of \$1,830.00 towards the purchase of new tables at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Minnesota Statutes 465.03 states the City can accept donations for the benefit of its citizens and is specifically authorized to accept gifts. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the Resolution Accepting a Donation to the City from the above Club for \$1,830.00. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on purchasing new tables for the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. The Council budgeted for new tables for the banquet room at the Event Center for 2019. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen received a quote from Rethwisch & Son, LLC for ten (10) new round commercial grade tables, and thirty (30) new rectangle commercial grade tables for a total of \$5,900.00, including shipping and handling, and a ten (10) year warranty.

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen informed the Council the City budgeted \$3,500.00 for the Event Center tables, and in the previous agenda item, approved the Resolution Accepting a Donation to the City from the Shaokatan Sportsmen's Club for \$1,830.00, and the Council approved the sale of the broaster and fryers located at the Event Center at their March 4, 2019 meeting for \$1,700.00.

Discussion took place that the building will look more inviting if there were new tables. The current ones are heavy, old and not in good shape. The Council inquired what funds will be used to fix the road to the turnaround along the lake and Highway 75 if the donation from Shaokatan is spent on the tables. There will be more funding coming from pull tabs at the bar. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve using the donation from Shaokatan Sportsmen's Club and the sale of equipment at the Event Center to approve the purchase of ten (10) new commercial grade round tables, and thirty (30) new commercial grade rectangle tables for a total of \$5,900.00 from Rethwisch & Son, LLC. Motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Mark Dunn – The Fire Department is putting in new front doors at the fire hall.

Trustee Dave Enke – The Library Board met last week and the March numbers were down due to weather related issues. The board is looking for someone to build wooden shelving for the children's section at the Library. The Library has some shelving but the need for more storage is needed for the children's books.

Happenings at the Library include: Little Minnesota in World War II by Jill Johnson and Deane Johnson on April 5, 2019 at 6:00 PM who honor the brave men who sacrificed their lives in World War II; Photographer Doug Ohman on April 9, 2019 at 2:00 PM; and Kid's Sculpture Workshop on April 23, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – The Opera House is getting ready for their spring play. The board is getting prices to fix the back of the stage to save on heating costs. The new carpet is in, painting is complete, and the new curtains are up. Daryl wanted to express this thanks to the Maintenance Department and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen for removing some of the items from the Event Center and cleaning the bathroom, front area and kitchen.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and Karen Lichtsinn attended the Sportsmen's Show in March. Karen worked in the Glacial Lakes booth and she was very impressed with the individual she worked with. Karen and Cory Sik will be representing Lincoln County at the Explore Minnesota meeting in Slayton on May 22, 2019. The next Diner's Club \$3.00 meal is scheduled for April 11, and the gift cards are selling well. The pottery order will be here on June 3 which is a mini crock with a wind tower emblem to better represent tourism. The Chamber also had brief discussions on Saddle Horse and Benton Fremont Days.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:**

The 2019 Lake Benton Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Heritage Center/City Office. County Assessor Bruce Nielsen will be in attendance to answer questions from the Council and citizens of Lake Benton regarding property taxes.

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen requested approval to hire Kylie Rochel to clean the Event Center after events/rentals (clean the restrooms, sweep and vacuum) for \$20.00/hour. Kylie will no longer be cleaning the Community Center effective April 1, 2019. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve hiring Kylie Rochel to clean the Event Center after events/rentals for \$20.00/hour. Motion carried.

Letters and invoices have been mailed to 46 residents with dogs. The license fees are good for two years. The rabies clinic has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2019 from 4:00-6:00 PM at the Lake Benton Fire Hall. An ad will be placed in the paper reminding residents of this as well. The Golf Cart permit letters and invoices were also mailed to residents with golf carts.

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will be taking vacation April 22, 23 & 24. The City office will be closed these dates.

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

Bob Worth also wanted to thank Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen for cleaning the Event Center on her own time. The Event Center looked impressive for the Gala held this past Saturday evening.

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

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MAYOR

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ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK