

**DECEMBER 18, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, December 4, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. in the Heritage Center/City Office. Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw presided. Trustees Mark Dunn, David Enke, and Daryl Schlapkohl were present. City Attorney Mike Cable and Mayor Bob Worth were absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper, Scott Christensen, 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 December 4, 2017 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2017. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the claims presented against the City of Lake Benton.

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

ITC	\$ 265.55	USTI	\$ 1.12
QUARNSTROM/DOERING	\$ 1,689.60	LB PART HOUSE	\$ 34.77
LB HARDWARE	\$ 340.66	EXPRESSWAY LB	\$ 805.60
RICK'S WELDING	\$ 60.00	CITY OF LB	\$ 134.43
POSTMASTER	\$ 160.52	S & E AUTO	\$ 160.83
UTILITY CONSULTANTS	\$ 143.00	TODD DRAPER	\$ 243.48
PAT HAYNES	\$ 500.00	CHAMBER-CVB	\$ 141.72
FIRST SECURITY BANK	\$42,500.00	LAKE BENTON SCHOOL	\$ 2,000.00
CNH INDUSTRIAL CAP	\$ 2,471.09	SW SANITATION	\$ 4,019.73
DEV SERVICES, INC.	\$ 1,593.02	XION TECHNOLOGIES	\$ 114.00
CARDMEMBER SRVCS	\$ 208.30	ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	\$ 122.77
KENNEDY & GRAVEN	\$ 2,283.30	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 36.55
ENVIRO PUMP-PLUS	\$ 940.00		

**MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl 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.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Ken Rolling to build a 30' x 60' x 4' fence at 109 S. Harrison Street. The Rolling's were given the setbacks from the property line on which they can build a fence. Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper confirmed there were no setback concerns and everything is in compliance with the Ordinance. The fee of \$25.00 has been paid. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the building permit for Ken Rolling to build a 30' x 60' x 4' fence at 109 S. Harrison Street. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE:**

No Report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Mark Dunn – No Report.

Trustee Dave Enke – The EDA met last week and as of now there are three (3) businesses for sale in town. They include Lake Benton Hardware/NAPA, Valley Lumber, and Jim Gawerecki's Repair. Lake Benton Hardware/NAPA is listed with a new realtor located in Pipestone.

Discussion took place that the EDA, City, Chamber-CVB could work together and use more on-line marketing, and perhaps hire someone with the technology and marketing skills. Wages to hire someone could be shared with another community. Currently the Chamber Marketing position is vacant and this could be an opportune time to go in another direction.

Tom Kampmann approached an EDA member to sell the Center Post to either the City or the EDA to use as a Community Center and rent it out for events. It would be sad to lose this venue as the community needs something to accommodate individuals and large events.

CHS declined the EDA's latest offer to purchase their property by the railroad tracks. However, they may have an interested buyer and is in talks with them. It is a bit premature to say anything for sure at this time.

During the LCEDC report, Vince Robinson shared that Mike Carpenter's Auction building has been sold and is being leased to Vestas-American Wind Technologies, Inc. Also part of Jim Gawerecki's property behind the fire hall is being leased to Vestas.

Vince Robinson also informed the EDA Board that the Hole-in-the-Mountain Park is now listed as a regional park status. They are using legacy grant funds administered by the DNR which will be used for marketing, administration, etc. Congratulations to Daryl Schlapkohl for the hard work he has done to get this status.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – The Opera House discussed their upcoming year's shows, and election of officers will be done next month. They will talk to the Fire Department to ask if they would consider donating fire extinguishers to the Opera House, or perhaps the City could purchase them for the Opera House.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week. As previously stated, the Chamber is without a Coordinator at this time, and Karen Lichtsinn has been hired to fill in until other arrangements can be made.

The drawing for the tree walk is tomorrow. The Christmas light winners included: First Prize winner – Nathan Slegers, Second Prize winner – Margaret Larson, and Third Prize winner – Vince Robinson. The Santa Claus Day was a success as there were more attendees than in the past.

The \$2.00 meal is scheduled for tomorrow and will be sponsored by the Country House. The Chamber Kickoff is scheduled for January 20, 2018 at the Country House. The Foundation Gala is scheduled for March 24, 2018.

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

City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen reminded the Council, the newspaper, and the audience when there is more than two inches of snow, please remove all vehicles from the street so the Maintenance Department can easily remove the snow and your car will not get ticketed or towed.

#### **MAYORAL REPORT:**

No report.

**6:00 PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:00 PM Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw called for a motion to go into the Public Hearing on the Proposed Assessment for the Coteau Street Improvement Project. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to go into the Public Hearing on the Proposed Assessment for the Coteau Street Improvement Project. Motion carried.

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen informed the Council the homeowners involved with the assessment have the option of paying the assessment in full by January 17, 2018 with no interest. After that date, the assessment will be added to the homeowner's property taxes. The owner may at any time thereafter, pay to the City Administrator/Clerk the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid with interest accrued to December 31 of the year in which payment is made. Such payment must be made before November 15 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the succeeding year.

There being no taxpayers present or any questions, **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the amortization schedule and assessment, adopt the resolution, and authorize the Mayor and Administrator/Clerk to sign the resolution. Motion carried.

**MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to return to the regular meeting. Motion carried.

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

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MAYOR

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ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK