

**FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 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. City Attorney Mike Cable and Mayor Bob Worth were absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Curtis Rethwisch, 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. Shelly Finzen informed the Council and audience there will be a Recruitment Fair at the Legion Post on Monday, February 24, 2020.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2020 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2020. Motion carried.

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

ITC	\$ 283.26	LEAGE OF MN CITIES	\$ 11,497.00
USTI	\$ 2.72	QUARNSTROM-DOERING	\$ 1,303.40
L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 3,780.75	RETHWISCH & SON	\$ 806.51
EXPRESSWAY	\$ 288.94	RICK'S WELDING	\$ 45.00
THOMAS ELECTRIC	\$ 8,121.45	GOPHER STATE	\$ 1.35
CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 175.82	POSTMASTER	\$ 115.50
LB CHAMBER-CVB	\$ 141.60	GOVOFFICE LLC	\$ 475.00
SW SANITATION	\$ 3,599.68	BIOAG ENERGY	\$ 479.80
CARDMEMBER SRVCS	\$ 106.70	VERIZON	\$ 35.01
THOMAS PLUMBING	\$ 649.50		

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

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE**

No report.

The next item of business was to review/act on the draft contract with Lincoln County for law enforcement services. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen informed the Council that she, Trustee Dave Enke and Trustee Mark Dunn met with Sheriff Chad Meester to review the draft contract. The committee used the contract between the City of Hendricks and Lincoln County as a template for the City of Lake Benton. The committee agreed to base the cost on an hourly basis versus population. Trustee Dave Enke stated it is easier to decipher on an hourly base rather than population. The committee agreed on \$45.00 which covers salary, benefits and expenses. Sheriff Chad Meester stated to the County Commissioners and to the committee that this is a partnership and that is how we approach it. Both Trustee Dave Enke and Trustee Mark Dunn stated Sheriff Chad Meester was very good to work with. The City of Lake Benton is responsible for the records and evidence in the police office. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will work with Legal Counsel on this. The Council did not have any changes or amendments to make to the draft agreement. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the draft agreement and forward on to Legal Counsel for review and finalization. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a Resolution of Support of Telecommuting Opportunities and Telecommuter Forward! Certification. Trustee Dave Enke addressed the Council and stated this is an initiative endorsed and supported by The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Office of Broadband Development. This is to encourage and promote technology and infrastructure for individuals to work from their homes. The southwest part of Lincoln County is completed with the internet technology, and the northern and eastern parts of the County are not completed yet. The LCEDC and County endorsed the Telecommuter Forward and recommended each entity within the County adopt and approve the resolution as well as appoint a Single Point of Contact. Vince Robinson with the LCEDC agreed to be the Single Point of Contact for the County and the City of Lake Benton. This will be used for marketing to attract new businesses and assist with possible funding requests through DEED in the future. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to apply for the Telecommuter Forward! Certification, approve the resolution and appoint Vince Robinson as the Single Point of Contact. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Mark Dunn – The Annual City, Fire and Township meeting is scheduled for Thursday and Mark will not be able to attend the meeting.

Trustee Dave Enke – The EDA met last week and a tentative date of March 2 is set for closing on the Grocery Store to the Bolt's. This may be delayed due to one of the funding entities is not able to attend on that date. The EDA applied through the rehab program to re-shingle 4-Plex II and install water heaters and exterior doors. However, in the interim, the board talked about including blown-in insulation for both 4-Plexes in the grant. The board also discussed the 2017 housing survey and additional housing in the County and City. No decisions have been made on 2-bedroom 4-Plexes or 3-bedroom; double garage duplexes will be built. Information was presented from a Developer who develops Net Zero Ready buildings that are extremely energy efficient and costs are minimal.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – Daryl will preside over the Annual City, Fire and Township meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and the tickets for the Opera House ticket sales will again be sold through the Chamber. 7,000 copies of the two (2) year Visitor's Guides were received. The February business of the month was the Country House and the March business of the month is Rick's Welding. The Chamber Kickoff is rescheduled to March 28, 2020.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:**

The annual meeting of the City of Lake Benton, Lake Benton Fire Department and Townships will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the LB Community & Event Center. The Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Heritage Center/City Office.

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

No report.

Trustee Dave Enke thanked Trustee Mark Dunn and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen for working on the contract for law enforcement. The Council members also thanked the committee.

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

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MAYOR

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ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK