

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Michael Carpenter presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Karen Lichtsinn, Patrick Haynes, and Scott Christensen were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Jason Overby with Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water, and Steve Pokos 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 January 17, 2023 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2023. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

ECOLAB	\$ 105.00	BOLT'S LB GROCERY	\$ 4.60
OTTERTAIL	\$ 3,290.87	ITC	\$ 324.75
VADIM	\$ 152.95	QUARNSTROM/DOERING	\$ 112.50
RETHWISCH & SON	\$ 1,343.95	STATION ONE	\$ 226.84
GOPHER STATE	\$ 51.35	S & E AUTO	\$ 25.00
UTILITY CONSULTANTS	\$ 133.64	TODD DRAPER	\$ 32.00
TRAVIS LUSTFIELD	\$ 282.00	PAT HAYNES	\$ 654.63
MN LIFE	\$ 5.10	CHAMBER-CVB	\$ 1,078.38
SW SANITATION	\$ 3,703.29	BANNER	\$ 2,386.50
BIOAG	\$ 791.82	TROY NORDMEYER	\$ 32.00
KYLIE ROCHEL	\$ 115.00	ONE OFFIC SOLUTION	\$ 56.12
HEIDI THOMSEN	\$ 6.00	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 291.60
FERGUSON WATER	\$ 1,513.27	CENTER POINT	\$ 49.14
DANNY/MEGAN KROTZER	\$ 250.00		

MOTION by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn 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.

The next item of business was to review/act on temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor Licenses for the Fire Department to serve alcohol at the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club Annual Game Feed on March 18, 2023, at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center; and the Lake Benton Area Foundation Gala on March 25, 2023 at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor license for the Lake Benton Fire Department to serve alcohol at the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club Annual Game Feed on March 18, 2023 at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Motion carried. **MOTION** by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor license for the Lake Benton Fire Department to serve alcohol at the Lake Benton Area Foundation Gala on March 25, 2023 at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a Resolution Accepting Donations to the Library. The Library received a donation from Laverne and Mary Paschke for \$50.00 in memory of Clarice Nordmeyer, and Steven and Edel Hudson for \$50.00. These donations will be designated for collections. Minnesota Statutes state the Library can accept donations for the benefit of recreational services. The Council needs to pass the resolution accepting the donations to the Library. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the Resolution Accepting the Donations from Laverne and Mary Paschke for

\$50.00 in memory of Clarice Nordmeyer and from Steven and Edel Hudson for \$50.00. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a Memorandum of Understanding for an AFG Grant for mobile and portable radios for the Lincoln County Firefighters. Lincoln County Emergency Management Amber Scholten is working on putting a grant together to purchase mobile and portable radios for the Lincoln County Firefighters. The radios are over 12 years old and need to be replaced. The grant is a 95% to 5% ratio with the City being liable for 5% of the total cost for the Lake Benton Fire Department's new ARMER radios. Trustee Scott Christensen informed the Council the radios need to be upgraded because they are no longer able to get batteries for the radios. The cost for new radios for the Lake Benton Fire Department is over \$100,000.00 and the chances of getting this grant are very good. The Council will need to consider approving the Memorandum of Understanding and approve Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen's signature prior to Amber submitting the final narrative for the grant. **MOTION** by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Lincoln County for an AFG Grant for mobile and portable radios for the Lincoln County Firefighters, and authorize Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen to sign the MOU. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on amending Ordinance 205 Fees and Charges for the monthly charge for the base rate on water and sewer. Mayor Michael Carpenter reminded the Council at the January 3, 2023 regular meeting he addressed adjusting the monthly base fee for water and sewer due to the fact the cost of operating the water fund is higher than the sewer fund. As of now, the water monthly base rate is \$20.00 and the sewer monthly base rate is \$20.00. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to adjust the water monthly base rate charge from \$20.00 to \$25.00 and adjust the sewer monthly base rate charge from \$20.00 to \$15.00 beginning February 1, 2023 to be shown on the March 2023 billing statement. Motion carried.

5:46 PM – PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 150

Mayor Michael Carpenter called for a motion to go into the public hearing to consider amending Zoning Ordinance No. 150 by changing the zoning district from an A-1 Agriculture District to a B-2 Highway Business District. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to open the public hearing. Motion carried. This public hearing is to consider amending the District under Ordinance No. 150 "Lake Benton City Zoning Ordinance" for the following described property: That part of Government Lot 1 of Section Five (5), Township 109 North, Range 45 West of the 5th P.M., Lincoln County, Minnesota.

The property is described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast Corner of said Government Lot 1; thence South 89°49'46" West on the north line of said Government Lot 1 for a distance of 61.61 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing South 89°49'46" West on said north line for a distance of 984.28 feet to the presently established centerline of U.S. Highway 75 and to the beginning of a non-tangent curve, concave East having a radius of 2,291.83 feet; then Southerly on said centerline and on the arc of said curve to the left for an arc distance of 728.29 feet (said curve subtended by a chord which bears South 14°59'12" West with a chord distance of 725.23 feet) to the beginning of a non-tangent line; thence North 89°49'46" East for a distance of 1,174.24 feet; thence North 00°11'52" West for a distance of 700.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 17.66 acres, inclusive of 2.66 acres of public road right-of-way on the north and west sides thereof. Subject to Easements, if any, of record or apparent.

From an A-1 Agriculture District to a B-2 Highway Business District and to direct the current Official Zoning Map to be amended in accordance with this amendment. A second public hearing will take place later this evening to amend the Zoning District.

Three parties were sent a letter regarding the public hearing and Steve Pokos was in attendance as one of the parties within a 350 feet radius of the property. Steve inquired about diagrams, and if this is an office facility or a shop facility. Jason Overby with Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water informed Steve it is a combination of both an office facility and a shop facility. They are currently in the design phase for a single structure wood frame office and steel building shop.

Steve then inquired about the large trucks and semis on the County road and will they be on site. Jason stated the semis are below the 10 ton weight for the County road, and they will have the semis, a 5th wheel trailer and service vehicles for the water operators on site. Jason then explained that Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water will also use the township road north of the County road to reduce the risk of the intersection to Highway 75 and are working with the City on the right-of-way from the township road.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then called three times for additional input from the audience. No additional input was given. **6:00 PM – MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Patrick Haynes to close the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Library board met and the December stats are comparable to the previous year considering the library being closed a few days due to inclement weather. The library needs to fill a vacant seat on the board effective January 1, 2023. The Winter Reading Program is underway with 14 patrons signed up and the program goes through March 31, 2023. Legacy Funds has a program called “Wrapped in Reading Virtual Authors Tour” which will be held every Tuesday in February, and patrons can contact the library for additional information.

Trustee Patrick Haynes – No report.

Trustee Karen Lichtsinn – No report.

Trustee Scott Christensen – The Fire Department met on February 1, 2023 and are now recertified in CPR, and the department signed with a band for Saddle Horse weekend. Trustee Scott Christensen then informed the Council he received a call from a member of the Lion’s Club to install an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) in the Event Center, and the cost is \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00. The First Responders added AEDs to all the churches in Lake Benton a few years ago and it would be good to have the AEDs in the Event Center, Library and City Hall. The AEDs are easy to use and no training is necessary. There was discussion on getting an Amundson Grant or a grant from the Lake Benton Area Foundation to assist with purchasing the AEDs and requesting the Lion’s Club to put on a benefit for the First Responders to get funds to purchase the AEDs. This item will be addressed at the next regular meeting of February 21, 2023.

MOTION by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the Committee Reports. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

The USDA did a compliance review with the City and the Library since we have a USDA loan for the Library. The flush control in the handicapped stall in the lady’s restroom at the City office is on the wrong side. The flush control needs to be on the open (wider) side of the water closet. Thomas Plumbing ordered a new toilet with the flush control on the right side and will install it next week. We will then be ADA compliant.

The 2023 Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting for the City of Lake Benton is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Lake Benton Area Community & Event Center. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the Administrator/Clerk Report. Motion carried.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council of his, Trustee Karen Lichtsinn and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen’s meeting with Vince Robinson on January 25, 2023 to discuss the development and possible TIF options at Johnson Commercial Park, and funding for the 2027 MnDOT project. Vince is putting information together for the committee to bring to the Council.

Mayor Michael Carpenter reminded the Council of the Special Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 7:30 AM to meet with the EDA Board to discuss development in the community. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Todd Draper’s retirement party went very well.

6:15 PM – PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE AMENDMENT OF ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 150

Mayor Michael Carpenter called for a motion to go into the public hearing to consider the amendment of Zoning Ordinance No. 150 to change the zoning district from an A-1 Agriculture District to a B-2 Highway Business District. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to open the public hearing. Motion carried. This public hearing is to consider the amendment of the District under Ordinance No. 150 "Lake Benton City Zoning Ordinance" for the following described property: That part of Government Lot 1 of Section Five (5), Township 109 North, Range 45 West of the 5th P.M., Lincoln County, Minnesota.

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From an A-1 Agriculture District to a B-2 Highway Business District and to direct the current Official Zoning Map to be amended in accordance with this amendment. Mayor Michael Carpenter then asked the citizens in attendance, three time, if they would like to give any input on the amendment of Zoning Ordinance No. 150.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then called three times for input from the audience. No input was given. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the amendment of Zoning Ordinance No. 150 to change the zoning district from an A-1 Agriculture District to a B-2 Highway Business District. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Trustee Scott Christensen – Yes, Trustee Patrick Haynes – Yes, Trustee Karen Lichtsinn – Yes, Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – Yes. Motion carried.

6:20 PM MOTION by Scott Christensen , seconded by Patrick Haynes to close the public hearing and 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 Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Patrick Haynes and carried, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK