

**JULY 3, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, July 3, 2023 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Michael Carpenter presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Karen Lichtsinn, and Scott Christensen were present. City Attorney Mike Cable and Trustee Patrick Haynes were absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen and Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield 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 June 20, 2023 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2023. Motion carried.

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

OTTERTAIL	\$ 2,419.95	ITC	\$ 1,462.28
THOMAS ELECTRIC	\$ 763.50	S & E AUTO	\$ 20.00
TRAVIS LUSTFIELD	\$ 32.00	PAT HAYNES	\$ 250.00
MN LIFE	\$ 5.10	TASTE OF HOME	\$ 12.98
US TREASURY	\$ 9.00	LINCOLN CTY SHERIFF	\$ 59,685.00
TROY NORDMEYER	\$ 32.00	BOB LICHTSINN	\$ 120.00
LINCOLN CTY AUDITOR	\$ 100.00	KYLIE ROCHEL	\$ 123.00
M & T FIRE AND SAFETY	\$ 2,184.90	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 64.50
CENTER POINT	\$ 49.14	DANNY/MEGAN KROTZER	\$ 250.00

**MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Scott Christensen 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 Travis Lustfield informed the Council that Double D Gravel contacted him last Thursday and they completed the rip rap on the sewer ponds.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield then informed the Council that he would like to see the homeowners trim their trees and bushes away from the streets and sidewalks. Travis requested to run an ad in the newspaper requesting all residents trim their trees or the Maintenance Department will trim their trees for them in August. Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield said the Maintenance Department will pick up the trimmed branches when they are done. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to run an ad in the newspaper requesting all residents trim their trees and bushes away from the streets and sidewalks. Motion carried.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield then informed the Council that Fuller Paving was in town last week to pave the water break on Whitman Street and 103 Coteau Street after the resident fixed her sewer line. The street has not yet been paved after the repair of the sewer line on Morton Street.

The next item of business was to review/act on quotes for repairing the sanitary manhole infiltration and inflow reduction and trenchless spot repair of sanitary mains in various locations. City staff provided the Council with quotes to repair eight (8) of the City's sanitary manholes. The first quote was from Empire Pipe Services for approximately \$6,720.00; and the second quote was from Visu-Sewer for

approximately \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00, which includes drive time from the Twin Cities and take approximately three to four days. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve Empire Pipe Services quote to repair eight (8) of the City's sanitary manholes in the amount of \$6,720.00, and authorize Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield to contact Empire Pipe Services to complete the work this summer. Motion carried.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield explained to the Council that City staff considered capping off the sewer line from the former CHS building on Lincoln/Grant Street but Kerbie Slegers building at 103 Grant Street is tied into CHS's sewer line and cannot be capped. Travis further explained the line from CHS has numerous holes and he and Todd Draper thought the City's mains must be 6" or more but there is no paperwork to back up this statement, so there must have been a 4" sewer main from CHS to Benton Street. The best route to go for this is to excavate a hole along Benton Street, locate the line and cut it off. Then have a company from South Dakota trench a 20' line under the road and bore a new line from Kerbie Slegers building to the main. The cost would be approximately \$3,000.00. The Council suggested a map or drawing would be helpful to understand where the line goes from CHS to Benton Street and where Kerbie Sleger's building ties into CHS's line. Travis informed the Council there is a green marking on the road from Benton Street to the CHS property and he can take the Council members there to see.

The Council was also provided a quote from Empire Pipe Services to install an 8" x 48" specialized liner "pipe patch" to seal off the sanitary sewer services that are leaking ground water and no longer being used for approximately \$3,945.00 plus mobilization. Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield then informed the Council that Thomas Plumbing is planning to work on the issue on Parkview Drive this week and Travis will inform the homeowner when the date is confirmed.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield then requested permission from the Council to place an ad in the newspaper that the City is planning to smoke the sewer system. Minnesota Rural Water is planning to come to Lake Benton on July 24 and July 25 to offer the free service to smoke the sewer system to confirm the eave spouts from rain gutters and sump pumps are not running into the City's sewer system. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to authorize City staff to place an ad in the newspaper to inform the homeowner the City will be smoking the sanitary sewer system July 24 and July 25, 2023. Motion carried.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield then suggested the Council consider focusing on six major areas that need to be fixed this year and those that are light drips to be completed over the course of the next two to three years. Travis then stated that a lot of these homeowners do not have the funds to fix the issue right now and the state may have funds for the homeowners in the future. The Council suggested City staff provide them with a priority list based on the severity of the issues before a decision is made. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to table this item until the next regular meeting of July 17, 2023. Motion carried.

**MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the public work update. Motion carried.

### **6:03 PM PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:03 PM, Mayor Michael Carpenter called for a motion to go into the public hearing on the revisions to the City's Floodplain Ordinance. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to go into the public hearing on the revisions to the City's Floodplain Ordinance. Motion carried. This floodplain ordinance would amend the City's floodplain regulations, which guides development in a manner that complies with the state and the standards of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and will reference the effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS). There were no citizens in the audience to comment on the revisions. Mayor Michael Carpenter asked once if anyone had input on the City's Floodplain Ordinance. Mayor Michael Carpenter asked for a second time if anyone had input on the City's Floodplain Ordinance. Mayor Michael Carpenter asked a

third time if anyone had input on the City's Floodplain Ordinance. There were no comments made. Mayor Michael Carpenter then asked for a motion to go out of the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Scott Christensen to go out of the public hearing and return to the regular meeting at 6:06 PM. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the application for a Gambling Exempt Permit for the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club Gun Bingo on August 26, 2023. Due to the fact the non-profit organization is having a gambling activity, the application requires the local unit of government's acknowledgement and the Mayor's signature. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the Gambling Permit for the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club on August 26, 2023 and authorize the Mayor to sign the acknowledgement. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for the Fire Department to serve alcohol at the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club Gun Bingo on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw 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 Gun Bingo on Saturday, August 26, 2023 at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the Nature Conservancy Hunting Agreement. This agreement is for the 2023 Archery Hunt in Lake Benton which begins September 16, 2023 and goes through December 31, 2023. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the Nature Conservancy Hunting Agreement. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Steven Hurd to install an 8' x 6' privacy fence along the patio of his property at 403 S. Fremont Street. Steven was given the setbacks in which to install the privacy fence and the \$25.00 application fee has been paid. There are no setback concerns and everything is in compliance with the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the building permit for Steven Hurd to install an 8' x 6' privacy fence along the patio of his property at 403 S. Fremont Street. 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 \$30.00 in memory of Darlene Carpenter. 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 donation to the Library. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the Resolution Accepting the Donation from Laverne and Mary Paschke for \$30.00 in memory of Darlene Carpenter to the Library. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to adopt Chapter 172 Ordinance No. 215 Floodplain Ordinance. Mayor Michael Carpenter reminded the Council and audience that there were no comments at the Public Hearing held earlier in the evening regarding the City's Floodplain Ordinance. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to adopt Chapter 172 Ordinance No. 215 Floodplain Ordinance and authorize the Administrator/Clerk to print the ordinance summary in the July 12, 2023 issue of the Lake Benton Valley Journal. Motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – No report.

Trustee Karen Lichtsinn – No report.

Trustee Scott Christensen – No report.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:**

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen informed the Council that Jesse Vlaminck with MnDOT would like to schedule a special meeting with the City Council on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM to review the geological layout for the Highway 75 project scheduled for 2027. After the special meeting, Jesse will take the layout back to MnDOT for their approval and bring back to the Council for final approval and signatures. After the resolution has been approved, Jesse will plan an open house to meet with the homeowners to review the project layout at a future date. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to call for a special meeting to meet with MnDOT on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center, and authorize the Administrator/Clerk to post the notices. Motion carried.

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

The next regular meeting is Monday, July 17, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a **MOTION** was made by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw and carried, the meeting adjourned.

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MAYOR

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ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK