

JUNE 1, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Bob Worth, Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Mark Dunn, Daryl Schlapkohl, and Dave Enke were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Karen Lichtsinn, and Shelly Finzen from the Lake Benton Valley Journal were also present.

Mayor Bob Worth called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Mayor Bob Worth 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 May 18, 2020 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 18, 2020. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

BOLT'S LB GROCERY	\$	33.49	OTTERTAIL	\$	1,954.22
RETHWISCH & SON	\$	84.87	UTILITYCONSULTANTS	\$	310.00
TODD DRAPER	\$	32.00	PAT HAYNES	\$	250.00
MINNESOTA LIFE	\$	5.10	LB CVB	\$	1,057.83
LB CHAMBER	\$	217.33	MN DEPT OF HEALTH	\$	789.00
NORTH SHORE AGENCY	\$	25.95	PALISADES	\$	9,708.00
TROY NORDMEYER	\$	32.00	ALEX AIR	\$	317.99
MAGAZINE LINE	\$	19.98	AMAZON	\$	418.70
PLUM CREEK LIBRARY	\$	355.00	DEMCO	\$	29.18
NU-TECH	\$	273.60			

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve payment of the claims presented against the City of Lake Benton. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Keith "Butch" Rochel to install a 10' x 10' shed at 208 S. Fremont Street. 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 Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the installation of a 10' x 10' shed for Keith "Butch" Rochel at 208 S. Fremont Street. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

No report.

The next item of business was to review/act on a phone line for the Lake Benton Food Shelf. Karen Lichtsinn was in attendance to update the Council on the many changes taking place with the food shelf (constructing a larger area in the back of the Heritage Center/Museum, grants to fund the program, and make the citizens of the community aware of the amenities of the program). Karen stated that three parking spots have been established in the back of the building and she has applied for \$12,500.00 in funding and has received \$5,000.00 as of today. As they look to the future and the plans for the food shelf, a dedicated phone line needs to be established with the goal to open the food shelf on a schedule basis.

MOTION by Dave Enke, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to approve the installation of a new phone line for the Lake Benton Food Shelf considering ITC can add a new line. Motion carried.

The next item of business was an update on Saddle Horse Holiday. Karen Lichtsinn addressed the Council regarding the change in events scheduled for Saddle Horse Holiday on June 19 and 20, 2020

to meet the COVID-19 guidelines. The events will include two rounds of finding the hidden horse shoe, yard decorating contest, youth coloring event, and raffle ticket drawings. Miss Lake Benton will take place Wednesday evening at the Heritage Center, the Citizen of the Year parade will be held on Thursday at 7:00 PM – those wanting to be in the parade will meet at the fire hall and find out who will be receiving the award and drive by and honor the individual. The Chamber is having a chicken dinner at the fire hall on Friday evening from 5:00-6:30 PM and everyone is to remain in their vehicles and leave \$10.00/meal in a bucket. Next Era Energy Resources is sponsoring the fireworks on Friday evening at dusk. Saturday will be the stationary parade where the floats remain stationary on Benton Street and parade goers will line up by the Hole-in-the-Mountain Park on Zimmer Drive south to Benton Street and head east. There will be no football or softball games, no hot dog feed, no Legion dinner, and no fireman’s dance. Individuals seem excited to have something to celebrate and be safe.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Trustee Mark Dunn – No report.
- Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and the business of the month for May was Allele, and the business of the month for June is Kjergaard Sports.
- Trustee Dave Enke – The Library board met last week and the library opened today under COVID-19 guidelines. The library is not functioning at 100% as there is no computer access, but patrons are encouraged to check out chrome books. Although the numbers of patrons that visit the library are down, the materials checked out and delivered was equal to the same amount for the month for the last two years.

Trustee Dave Enke reminded the Council that Deputy Jake Jenson was appointed as the liaison from the Sheriff’s office in accordance with the contract. It was suggested the Council consider appointing one or two liaisons for the City of Lake Benton. The Council was asked to consider being one of the liaisons and this item will be reviewed and acted upon at the next regular meeting.

- Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – No report.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen sent out notices to two individuals, who at this time have failed to respond to written correspondence to vaccinate and license their dogs, and a citation could likely be issued after personal contact with them. Eileen will be speaking with the League’s attorney in regards to Thor Tollefson’s work comp claim on June 30, 2020. FEMA representatives have been contacted to research why the City has not received their funds for the emergency pumping project that was submitted March 24, 2020. The City also got the go ahead to move forward with completing the EMS parking lot.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Mayor Bob Worth stated a couple Council members called him with issues of a business and residential properties that need cleaning. City staff mailed letters, and the Mayor was notified by the business and the business agreed to contact the Sheriff’s office to get legalities on how to remove the vehicles that money is still owed. This item will be discussed further at the next regular meeting.

Mayor Bob Worth thanked Karen Lichtsinn and the Chamber for doing something new and exciting for Saddle Horse Holiday during the COVID-19 pandemic. This makes for an enjoyable summer.

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

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK