

**MARCH 15, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5:30 PM in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Michael Carpenter, Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Mark Dunn, Daryl Schlapkohl, and Dave Enke were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Don Evers, Lisa Willert, and Leslie Willert from the Lake Benton Valley Journal 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. Lisa Willert thanked the Council and City staff for assisting the Lake Benton Resort to get their Off-Sale Liquor License. The community is glad to have a place to purchase Off-Sale Liquor again.

Don Evers was in attendance representing the American Legion Henry Sollie Post #10. Don stated that since COVID-19, the Post has not been able to have fundraisers to raise money. He wanted to let everyone know their building is now open for rent, and if anyone having events needs help selling liquor and food, they would be willing to apply for a license. Don also stated that the Lions Club members have not met or sponsored benefits for over a year.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2021 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2021. Motion carried.

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

SHELLY FINZEN	\$ 267.57	ITC	\$ 328.69
QUARNSTROM/DOERING	\$ 1,861.50	L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 5,927.51
RETHWISCH & SON	\$ 680.24	EXPRESSWAY	\$ 369.53
CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 172.08	LINCOLN CTY TREASURER	\$ 34.00
S & E AUTO	\$ 155.00	GOV OFFICE	\$ 90.00
MN DEPT OF HEALTH	\$ 789.00	SW SANITATION	\$ 3,668.70
CAREN PETERSEN	\$ 165.00	XION TECHNOLOGIES	\$ 59.95
BANNER ASSOCIATES	\$ 6,930.00	BIOAG ENERGY	\$ 592.57
CARDMEMBER SERVICES	\$ 1,035.55	ONE OFFICE	\$ 66.24
BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 120.16	THOMAS PLUMBING	\$ 347.00
ROSENBAUER SD, LLC	\$ 137.76		

**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 Mayor authorized the Administrator/Clerk to make payment.

The next item of business was to review/act on rehab grant requests. Three payment requests were received for the Rehab Grant Program: Contractor requests of \$5,000.00 to Construction Partners, \$4,254.00 to Prairie Construction/Smith, and \$2,000.00 to DSI for Administration fees. The total funds of \$11,254.00 were requested and deposited into the account. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve payment of the rehab grant checks presented. Motion carried.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

The Council reviewed the February law enforcement report for Lake Benton. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to approve the law enforcement update. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE**

No report.

The next item of business was to review/act on awarding the bid for the Lakewood Drive-Oakwood Drive Street Improvement Project. Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council the bid opening was at 1:00 PM today and three bids were provided. The estimate was \$90,000.00. The bids were as follows: Duinick, Inc. in the amount of \$91,788.42; Central Specialties, Inc. in the amount of \$110,590.16; and Bituminous Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$94,561.00. Mayor Michael Carpenter reminded the Council the former Council approved using unallocated funds totaling \$110,000.00 on August 17, 2020. The funds were collected from the sale of the Police Durango, the sale of property, and FEMA. City Attorney Mike Cable reviewed and approved the resolution awarding the bid. Should the Council move to award the bid, Mayor Michael Carpenter then requested the Council authorize the Mayor and Administrator/Clerk to sign the resolution. Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper will contact the contractor to proceed with the project. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to award the bid to Duinick, Inc. of Marshall in the amount of \$91,788.42. Motion carried. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Mark Dunn to authorize the Mayor and Administrator/Clerk sign the resolution. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Lisa VanDeWalle to install a fence at 115 S. Whitman Street. Lisa was given the setbacks on which she can install the fence and Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper will confirm there are no setback concerns. The fee of \$25.00 was paid. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to approve the building permit for Lisa VanDeWalle to install a fence at 115 S. Whitman Street. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on live streaming meetings and events. Mayor Michael Carpenter reminded the Council the City currently tapes the Council meetings through the City's laptop computer, however we have experienced some situations using this process in which the sound doesn't come through on the recording, the tape freezes, or the meeting doesn't get taped at all. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen talked with Danny Krotzer who suggested the City use a video hosting service which would support live streaming of City meetings and events, as well as keeping an archive of previous events with "on-demand" viewing. These services would be incorporated into the City's existing website. The initial cost for set up is \$200.00 and the services would cost \$40.00/month, paid annually for a total of \$480.00/year. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve paying \$480.00 annually for a video hosting service that would support live streaming of City meetings and events. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Trustee Mark Dunn – No report.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and Glacial Lakes Tourism will display the Chamber's tourism materials at two trade shows, one in Fargo and the other in Sioux Falls. The Business of the Month for March is Pat Haynes Computer, and the Lake Benton Resort will be the Business of the Month for April. The Diners Club did not have a drive-thru meal in March, and the date has been changed back to the second Thursday of the month. The Chamber started conversations on Saddle Horse Holiday.

Trustee Dave Enke – The EDA met last week and the majority of the discussion was regarding the possible tenant at the Johnson Commercial Park and the infrastructure needs to make it viable. The EDA agreed to share in the cost of getting a cost estimate from Banner Associates. A group met with Banner Associates last Friday regarding the infrastructure at the park and Banner will provide cost estimates to connect to the existing sewer main, as well as an independent mound. Banner will have these estimates completed on March 19, 2021. The group also requested cost estimates for water, sewer and street in the Mork & Giles Addition.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – No report.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:**

Several citizens of the community commented to Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen regarding the letter sent out to all the citizens about spring clean-up. Someone stated it was a good letter, and it's about time this was done!

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

Mayor Michael Carpenter inquired if the farm rent is paid twice a year, and was informed that it is. Mayor Michael Carpenter then informed the Council if the proposed tenant builds on the property, the rent amount will need to be refigured.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then reminded the Council that he was instructed to check on building a kiosk around the north entry door. He hasn't talked with anyone yet, but will report back to the Council when he does.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then informed the Council there are a lot of miscellaneous items in the back room and the room off the kitchen in the Event Center that need to get cleaned out. He talked with the Chamber and Historical Society to possibly clean out the items and put them on a rummage sale. The Chamber is looking for a new computer and the sale of the items would help purchase that. The Chamber informed the Mayor they are not interested. Mayor Michael Carpenter then stated that City staff can talk with Rita Stueven and inquire if she would be interested in the items for her business. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to talk with Rita Stueven to see if she would be interested in the items. If Rita is not interested, the City will get a dumpster, and throw the items. Motion carried.

The 2021 Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center.

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