

MAY 16, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Michael Carpenter presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Mark Dunn, Patrick Haynes, and Daryl Schlapkohl were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper, Sheriff Chad Meester, and Kristina Hernandez with the Lake Benton Valley Journal were also present. Shannon Sweeney with David Drown Associates attended virtually (TEAMS).

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.

Mayor Michael Carpenter then informed the Council and audience Item #4 on the agenda will be moved to Item #1. Mayor Michael Carpenter then thanked Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper and Maintenance Worker Troy Nordmeyer for their quick response and fabulous job cleaning up after the storm. In the next several weeks they will be dealing with trees and uprooted trunks; Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen for completing the paperwork that Lincoln County Emergency Management needed to declare a state emergency; County Parks Manager Daryl Schlapkohl for helping the Maintenance Department and for using the County's equipment; the First Responders, and Fire Department for their immediate response to check on people, controlling traffic and being called out for downed power lines; and Sheriff Chad Meester and his staff for being in town to help direct traffic. They all did an excellent job. The Mayor then commended and thanked the citizens of the City for cleaning up their own properties and helping neighbors clean up their properties. There will be the Public Meeting on Emergency Preparedness this Thursday evening at 7:00 PM at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. This meeting is sponsored by the City of Lake Benton, Lake Benton Fire Department, Lake Benton First Responders and Amber Scholten, Emergency Management Director. Again, thank you everyone for a fabulous job after the storm last week.

The first item on the agenda was to review/act on a Resolution Approving the Terms of General Obligation Housing Development Bonds, Series 2022A (General Obligation of the City of Lake Benton, Minnesota), and Authorizing a General Obligation Pledge Therefor. Shannon Sweeney with David Drown Associates provided the Council with the general project information regarding the construction on additional housing in the community by the Lake Benton EDA. The lowest alternative in the present environment was to request the City to authorize the general obligation pledge which included the City and the EDA holding a public hearing two weeks ago, and Minnesota Statutes requires the EDA to demonstrate 110% annually in revenues. The EDA will be able to meet the pledge requirement through revenues received from the existing 4-Plex units and the new Duplex units being constructed early next year. First Security Bank in Lake Benton agreed to a 3.65% interest rate over a twenty-year term, with an average \$92,000.00 payment each year. The EDA meeting went well and they approved their resolution, and this evening the City Council is being asked to pledge the general obligation and provide permission to issue the debt for the EDA. The closing date is scheduled for June 1, 2022. This will secure the financing to make the project feasible.

The Council inquired about the twenty-year term versus a thirty-year term and Shannon explained it is hard to purchase a credit rating which would cost an additional \$10,750.00 and additional issuance costs to hire an underwriter. Being able to work with a local bank and securing an interest rate is better than paying issuance costs. The goal is to have the debt paid off in twenty (20) years and take comfort that the EDA will meet the 110% by using revenues from the existing and new units. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Resolution Approving the Terms of General Obligation Housing Development Bonds, Series 2022A (General Obligation of the City of Lake Benton, Minnesota), and Authorizing a General Obligation Pledge Therefor. Roll Call Vote: Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw-Yes, Mark Dunn-Yes, Patrick Haynes-Yes, Daryl Schlapkohl-Yes. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 2, 2022 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 2, 2022. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Special Meeting of May 5, 2022 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 5, 2022. Motion carried.

The minutes of the Special 2021 Audit Meeting of May 12, 2022 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve the minutes of the Special 2021 Audit Meeting of May 12, 2022. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

ITC	\$ 326.70	L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 4,194.23
RETHWISCH & SON	\$ 1,267.50	EXPRESSWAY	\$ 497.39
RICK'S WELDING	\$ 160.00	GOPHER STATE	\$ 16.20
CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 183.58	POSTMASTER	\$ 130.40
DOUBLE D GRAVEL	\$ 833.22	KINNER & COMPANY	\$ 11,000.00
SW SANITATION	\$ 3,730.99	GARY NORDMEYER	\$ 535.00
BANNER ASSOCIATES	\$ 3,176.20	CARDMEMBER SRVCS	\$ 203.49
LINCOLN CTY AUDITOR	\$ 100.00	LONNIE WILLERT	\$ 30.00
ONE OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$ 111.87	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 269.15
CHRISTIANSON FARM	\$ 920.00	DVL FIRE & SAFETY	\$ 536.20
FULLER PAVING	\$ 2,918.40	ENVIRO-PUMP	\$ 840.00

MOTION by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn 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 rehab grant requests. Five payment requests were received for the Rehab Grant Program: Contractor DK Construction has two requests for \$5,488.70 and \$9,000.00, Contractor Construction Partners has a request for \$8,500.00, Dean Brandt HVAC has a request for \$3,000.00, and Administration fees of \$5,000.00 to DSI. The total funds of \$30,988.70 were requested to be deposited into the account. **MOTION** by Mark Dun, seconded by Patrick Haynes to approve payment of the rehab grant checks presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper expressed his thank you to so many people that assisted with the storm and thanked Lonnie Willert for helping the City out while Todd met with MnDOT and RCPE on Friday morning. Todd then informed the Council of the site visit with MnDOT and RCPE and reminded them of the meeting on May 5, 2022 when RCPE wanted to look into steel culverts versus the 10' X 4' concrete culvert. At Friday's site visit, RCPE changed their mind and felt the 10' X 4' concrete culvert has a better life expectancy and will better serve MnDOT with their plans at the intersection on Highway 14. RCPE will potentially contract the work out and get the work completed in a twelve-hour timeframe, and MnDOT, and the City will pay for the materials. Jesse Vlaminc is working on the cost estimates and will forward on when completed.

Empire Pipe Services is in the City performing the sewer televising. Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper is doing some research on repairs needed and will report to the Council at a later date. Todd requested Empire Pipe to clean additional storm sewer with additional costs. Empire Pipe will complete the televising in a week or two.

The downed trees were the major item from the storm last Thursday, and trees are being piled north of the former Ridge at the Highway 14 and 75 Junction. Todd contacted a contractor from Tea, SD to grind the pile and take the wood chips and will provide addition information after the contractor is here. The City Office/Heritage Center had some roof damage and a local contractor made it water tight until it can be re-shingled. The side panel at Lincoln and Center Street was destroyed and it contains an electrical box for

the street lights in the downtown area. The electrical panel has been temporarily fixed and it had wooden shingles around it. City staff is checking with the insurance agent to confirm this is covered under "in the open." It was also recommended the adjuster climb on all the City buildings including the Opera House.

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper then informed the Council there was a preconstruction meeting last week on the Mork and Giles Addition. The contractor was going to start today but there was a delay in the shipment of PVC pipe.

Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper contacted Otter Tail Power Company to add three light poles with lights similar to those on Lakeshore Drive in the Mork & Giles Addition. Otter Tail provides the lights and the poles and the City pays for monthly usage. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve adding three light poles with lights similar to those at Al's Landing in the Mork & Giles Addition and Harrison street. Motion carried.

MOTION by Patrick Haynes, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the public works update. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on bids for LP for the 2022-2023 heating season. The City of Lake Benton contracted with Palisades for 12,000 gallons of LP at \$1.32 per gallon for the 2021-2022 heating season (June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022). The contract has 1,508.56 gallons remaining as of May 13, 2022.

The following three providers contacted the City to bid the LP for the 2022-2023 heating season: Palisades, Meadowland and Chandler Coop. City staff sent a letter to the three providers requesting bids on 11,000 gallons of LP to be delivered to the City of Lake Benton tanks and provide payment options. The bids were due no later than 12:00 Noon on Friday, May 13, 2022. The following bids were received: Palisades for \$1.709 per gallon; Meadowland for \$1.89 per gallon; and Chandler Coop for \$1.72 per gallon.

MOTION by Patrick Hanes, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to contract with Palisades for 11,000 gallons of LP for the 2022-2023 heating at \$1.709 per gallon. Motion carried. Trustee Mark Dunn refrained from voting.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Sheriff Chad Meester also thanked everyone for their assistance in last week's storm. It was impressive to see the community work together to clean up. Sheriff Chad Meester addressed concerns in the community of something disrespectful and vulgar. Sheriff Meester reached out to legal counsel who stated the disrespectful and vulgar incident is protected under the Bill of Rights. Sheriff Meester will continue to monitor the situation and listen to concerns in the community. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the law enforcement update. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Scott Meyer to install a garage at 108 Sherman Street. Scott was given the setbacks in which to install a garage and the \$25.00 application fee has been paid. There are no setback concerns. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the building permit for Scott Meyer to install a garage at 108 Sherman Street. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the Spectator Liability Insurance for Saddle Horse Holiday. Darcy Miller provided the City with the liability insurance based on three days to set up, have the show, and take down. The City was given two quotes: the first is for \$1,000,000.00 for each occurrence, \$2,000,000.00 general aggregate, and \$1,000.00 med pay for a total of \$557.00, excluding the terrorism insurance coverage. The second quote is for \$1,000,000.00 for each occurrence, \$2,000,000.00 general aggregate, and \$5,000.00 med pay for a total of \$607.00, excluding the terrorism insurance. In prior years, the City took the \$1,000.00 med pay. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the purchase of the special spectator liability insurance for Saddle Horse Holiday with the exclusion of the terrorism coverage at the cost of \$557.00 to be split between the Lake Benton Chamber, Dakota-MN Saddle Horse – Lincoln County and the City of Lake Benton. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on granting the Chamber permission for J & M Displays to shoot the fireworks display for Saddle Horse Weekend. The Lake Benton Chamber is requesting permission to use the City's property behind the former Ridge (west of Highway 75 and south of Highway 14) to shoot the display. The insurance is covered by J & M Displays. Chamber Marketing Director Connie VanderPoel will contact the Fire Department and Sheriff's Office to be on stand-by. The north end of Center Street will be blocked off from CPR to Highway 14 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Patrick Haynes to grant permission for J & M Displays to use the City's property behind the former Ridge (west of Highway 75 and south of Highway 14) to shoot the fireworks display. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Dunn – No report.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – The Chamber met last week and the Business of the Month for May is the Lake Benton Resort, June is Southwest Sanitation, and July is Lake Benton Storage. The Café will continue to do Meals-On-Wheels until their lease is done in July. The Tyler Hospital agreed to do the Meals-On-Wheels. The Lake Benton Elementary School collected 100 pounds of food for the Food Shelf drive. The City garage sales are scheduled for May 27 and May 28, Yard of the Week will begin June 1, and Saddle Horse Holiday is June 17-19.

Trustee Patrick Haynes – The EDA met and the Buffalo Ridge LLC will be putting up 40 new towers which is good for the community. Improvements and repairs will be taking place at the 4-plex units to include new storm doors, and a new roof on the east 4-Plex.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – No report.

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to approve the Committee Reports. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

The City office will be closed Friday, May 27, 2022.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Reminder of the Emergency Preparedness Public Meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. The next regular meeting will be June 6, 2022.

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

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK