

MAY 17, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, May 17, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. 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, Deputy Jake Jensen, and Lisa Willert 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 May 3, 2021 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 3, 2021. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

ITC	\$ 330.03	VADIM	\$ 2,413.26
QUARNSTROM-DOERING	\$ 687.00	M & H COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 1,916.00
L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 6,596.07	RETHWISCH & SON	\$ 1,443.40
EXPRESSWAY	\$ 919.73	RICK'S WELDING	\$ 109.80
GOPHER STATE	\$ 9.45	CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 174.57
POSTMASTER	\$ 119.52	UTILITY CONSULTANTS	\$ 155.00
SW SANITATION	\$ 3,668.70	BANNER ASSOCIATES	\$ 4,025.80
CARDMEMBER SERVICES	\$ 457.28	ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	\$ 115.88
NORTH SHORE ANALYT	\$ 305.00	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 569.90
THOMAS PLUMBING	\$ 1,194.26	CHRISTIANSON FARM	\$ 415.00

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw 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. Seven payment requests were received for the Rehab Grant Program: Contractor requests of \$336.00 to Efficient Electrical, \$2,600.00 to Dean Brandt HVAC, \$6,000.00 to DK Construction, \$12,005.00 to Josh Behnke; \$250.00 to Scarcely for LEAD clearance; \$184.00 to the Lincoln County Recorder; and \$4,000.00 to DSI for Administration fees. The total funds of \$25,375.00 were requested to be deposited into the account and should arrive on or about May 31, 2021. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Dave Enke to approve payment of the rehab grant checks presented. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

The Council reviewed the April law enforcement update presented by Deputy Jake Jensen. The hours in April were down from March, and more hours were dedicated to the campgrounds. Summer is coming which means there will be more activity. The Council stated they appreciate the Sheriff's Department being in town and are very satisfied with their decision to contact with the Lincoln County Sheriff's office.

Mayor Michael Carpenter informed Deputy Jensen that Saddle Horse Weekend is planned for June 18-20, 2021 and there will be a full weekend of activities. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will provide a schedule of events to Deputy Jensen. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the law enforcement update. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

No report.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Garrett Petersen to place a storage shed on Lakeview Street. Garrett Petersen is in the process of purchasing the property to the east of Ken Johansen on Lakeview Street and would like to place a 20' x 10' utility shed on the property. Garrett was given the setbacks in which to place the shed, and the \$25.00 fee was paid. Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper confirmed there were no setback concerns and everything is in compliance with the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to approve the building permit for Garrett Petersen to place a 20' x 10' utility shed on the property east of Ken Johansen's on Lakeview 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 \$554.00, 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 \$604.00, 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 \$554.00 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 a Fireworks Display Permit for the Lake Benton Chamber for Saddle Horse Weekend. The Lake Benton Chamber is requesting approval of the Fireworks Display Permit for Pyrotechnic Displays on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 10:00 PM, and giving them 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 Pyrotechnic Displays. Chamber member Karen Lichtsinn 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 Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Fireworks Display Permit for Pyrotechnic on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 10:00 PM; and give Pyrotechnic permission to use the City's property behind the former Ridge (west of Highway 75 and south of Highway 14) to shoot the display. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review act on city wide clean-up. City staff provided a list of seven properties to the Council along with pictures of the properties. A letter will go out to the owners of the properties giving them until June 4, 2021 to comply with the Council's request to clean up their properties. The Council agreed to eliminate the last property listed which is located on Garfield Street. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to authorize the Administrator/Clerk to send a certified letter to the remaining six property owners, include pictures, and Ordinance Chapters #71 and #92. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the appointment of a new member to the Lake Benton EDA Board. Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council at the Lake Benton EDA meeting on May 12, 2021, the board regrettably accepted Jim Veire's resignation from the board. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Mark Dunn to accept Jim Veire's resignation from the EDA board. Motion carried.

The board unanimously nominated Bob Worth to be a member of the board. The members felt Bob will be a great asset to the board. The Lake Benton EDA would like to request the City Council appoint Bob Worth to the Lake Benton EDA board. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to appoint Bob Worth to the Lake Benton EDA board. 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 was Pat Haynes Computer, and either Kjeergard Sports or Kinner & Company for June. The Diner's Club drive-thru meals are going well. The Opera House is planning productions this year and the schedule is on the City of Lake Benton's website. The Lake Benton Volunteers of Education event on May 7, 2021 was well attended. The City-wide rummage sales are scheduled for May 27-29, 2021. The Chamber has been working on a full schedule of events for Saddle Horse Weekend and will follow the state mandated rules in place for safe distancing, sanitizing, etc. The World War I America Traveling Exhibit will be on display possibly in October and definitely in November over Veteran's Day.

Trustee Dave Enke – The EDA board met and received a letter of interest from the potential tenants in Johnson Commercial Park. The committee will meet with the tenants and follow-up with the board. The board had a lot of discussion regarding housing in Lake Benton and what to build. Do they create another 4-Plex or Duplexes with three bedrooms and double garages? DSI and LCEDC volunteered to assist the EDA in creating a questionnaire and sending it to the residents of Lincoln County in regards to what they want to see in housing development. The survey will be sent out in the late summer and returned by late September. The board will move forward after the survey results have been tallied. The EDA board made a decision to assist in marketing efforts for the sale of the Lunch Box Café business and building. The Chamber previously committed to this, and both the Chamber and EDA will provide financial assistance to businesses with their marketing efforts.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – No report.

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to approve the committee reports. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

The World War I America Traveling Exhibit will either be on display at the Lake Benton Public School or in the banquet room in the Event Center in November 2021 and possibly October. No events are scheduled in the banquet room at this time, and in the past, no events have been in the banquet area this time of year. Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council this Exhibit is coming thru the state, county by county. The Lincoln County Historical Society in Hendricks was contacted to display the Exhibit but they do not have the climate control in place to display it, so they contacted the Lake Benton Historical Society. The Lake Benton Historical Society and the Henry Sollie Post are working together to display the Exhibit and have a program.

MN Rural Water Association sent a thank you to Todd Draper and the City Council for hosting their training session on May 5, 2021. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the Administrator/Clerk report. Motion carried.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council that he, Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen met with Legal Counsel regarding the sample ordinance provided to the City from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the homeowner's lateral lines contributing to the overflow of the sewer ponds. Legal Counsel indicated what the City wants to do is currently in the City's Ordinances. Maintenance Supervisor Todd Draper and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will contact Banner Associates to schedule another meeting with the Water/Sewer Committee (Mayor Michael Carpenter and Trustee Dave Enke), Todd, and Eileen to discuss moving forward with the sewer pond project.

The bid put together for the infrastructure in the Mork & Giles Addition has been put on hold until the ponds are taken care of.

County Commissioner Cory Sik contacted Mayor Michael Carpenter and informed him the Hole-in-the-Mountain Regional Park will be discussed at their meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Updates will be provided on grants, what the next phase will be, and inquired if he would like to attend. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen will plan to attend the Commissioner's meeting tomorrow morning. Mayor Michael Carpenter then requested Parks Director/Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl update the Council on the progress of this project. Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl informed the Council the Master Plan was approved based on a point system, and they scored more points than anticipated which provided additional funding for the project. The first phase will include the trails, expanded campground, and tubing hill. The next phase will include adding on to the Chalet, adding another pavilion by the ball fields, and work on horse hill. The first phase will take five to seven years. This is a great enhancement for people to come to the park and provide economic development to the County and the community.

Mayor Michael Carpenter informed the Council the City received a quote from Jeremiah Jans with Western Printing in Marshall on the awning the City would like to install on the north side entrance of the Event Center. Jeremiah visited with Michael Carpenter and Eileen Christensen, took measurements and pictures and sent the City a bid for a 15'w x 48"h x 48"d Sumbrella Canvas Awning in the amount of \$2,750.00 plus installation of \$585.00. Mayor Michael Carpenter then informed the Council they may want to add lettering to the awning and do not have pricing on that at this time. The life expectancy of the awning is 25 years. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Daryl Schlapkohl to authorize the Mayor and Administrator/Clerk to proceed with the awning and add lettering not to exceed \$4,000.00. Motion carried.

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

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK