

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, November 4, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. in the Heritage Center/City Office. Mayor Bob Worth, Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Mark Dunn, Dave Enke, and Daryl Schlapkohl were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen, Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner, Caitlyn Petersen, Jess Gums, Darcy Miller, Margo Sik, Curtis and Laura Rethwisch, Roger Rudebusch, 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.

5:30 PM – PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT CHAPTER 172 NO. 210

Mayor Bob Worth called for a motion to go into the public hearing to adopt Chapter 172 No. 210 – An Ordinance Amending Title XVII, General and Additional Provisions Chapter 172 by Amending Ordinance No. 150 Article VIII. Areas, Yard and Height Requirements – Fences.

MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Dave Enke to open the public hearing to adopt Chapter 172 No. 210 – An Ordinance Amending Title XVII, General and Additional Provisions Chapter 172 by Amending Ordinance No. 150 Article VIII. Areas, Yard and Height Requirements – Fences. Motion carried.

No citizens were in attendance to give input on the adoption of the ordinance at the public hearing. When the ordinance is adopted, it will be published in the newspaper on November 13, 2019 and recorded at the recorder's office. The ordinance will be effective upon publication and recording. **MOTION** by Daryl Schlapkohl, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the adoption of Chapter 172 No. 210 – An Ordinance Amending Title XVII, General and Additional Provisions Chapter 172 by Amending Ordinance No. 150 Article VIII. Areas, Yard and Height Requirements – Fences. Motion carried.

5:33 PM – MOTION by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to close the public hearing and return to the regular meeting. Motion carried.

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 October 21, 2019 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Mark Dunn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 21, 2019. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

LB GROCERY	\$	7.16	OTTERTAIL	\$	2447.17
SANITATION PRODUCTS	\$	902.16	GOPHER STATE	\$	22.95
S & E AUTO	\$	243.28	TODD DRAPER	\$	32.00
PAT HAYNES	\$	471.38	MINNESOTA LIFE	\$	5.10
CHAMBER-CVB	\$	624.31	LB CHAMBER OF COMM	\$	528.00
LINCOLN CTY RECORDER	\$	46.00	MICHAEL FREDERICK	\$	24.00
MIDWEST LIVING	\$	8.00	MHSRC/RANGE	\$	435.00
PALISADES	\$	557.93	TROY NORDMEYER	\$	32.00
KYLIE ROCHEL	\$	105.00	SHANNA WORTH	\$	175.93
VERIZON	\$	35.01	ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	\$	203.36
MAGAZINE LINE	\$	215.74	PERFORMANCE FOOD	\$	44.08
BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$	27.95	JEFFREY BUMGARNER	\$	259.72
AMAZON	\$	860.66	DEMCO	\$	124.93
EMERGENCY AUTO TECH	\$	418.73			

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 City Administrator/Clerk to make payment.

The next item of business was to meet with the Lake Benton Area Foundation regarding Lakeside Park enhancements. Lake Benton Area Foundation board chair Jess Gums addressed the Council and proposed raising funds for Lakeside Park enhancements. Since the DNR completed their work on the water access, does the City have a vision for future enhancements? The City would like to get the road paved on both ends of the DNR water access which includes going under the viaduct, and get some nice lighting. The City has playground equipment at the School playground and Westside Field, and a smaller set of equipment could be put at Lakeside Park. The Foundation would like to make improvements that will enhance the area which would include shelter improvements because the building is underutilized, new picnic tables, and landscaping to name a few. Visual improvements to the area will make it more welcoming to visitors and the community. There are no restrooms in the area which may be a reason why the shelter house is underutilized. However, the DNR is putting in porta-potties the months of May through September. The Council agreed that the City would like to work with the Foundation to make these improvements. The 2020 Gala is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020 and this would be something good to benefit the community. It was suggested the Foundation contact the City when they would like to meet with two Council members to proceed with the process.

Discussion took place on once the funds are received, will the Foundation or the City disperse the funds. The City will need to accept the donation from the Foundation and the Foundation will designate funding for the various projects. It was suggested the Foundation get estimates on the projects before going into the Gala and they will know if additional funds need to be raised. The Foundation will prioritize what they want done first, second, etc. and contact the City. It was also understood the City maintains the park.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

No report.

POLICE REPORT

Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner presented the October Police Report. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner reviewed his report with the Council and told them he averaged approximately 25 hours a week. There was also a bit of a learning curve regarding the law enforcement record management system used in the County and getting all of his log-in privileges set up. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner commended the Lincoln County Sheriff's office (dispatchers, deputies, and especially Robin Sik) for providing him assistance and support. He also thanked former Police Chief Guy Harding for showing him the area and giving him some history. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner met with Attorney Matt Gross and he is getting to know the local businesses, school, and people of the community.

Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner completed his mandatory EVOG (Emergency Vehicle Operation Course) training and completed his required BCA training. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner met with Mark Bloom, representative of the Minnesota POST Board, in Redwood Falls who was conducting agency audits. The City passed the audit without any issues.

Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner had previously discussed with the City Council of his goal to expand the roster. An ad was placed a couple weeks ago on the POST Board website to solicit applications. To date, no applications have been received. However, some interest in working part-time has been expressed by a couple law enforcement officers in the region, and the department is working for 40 hours per week coverage. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner then stated there are other options to explore if finances allowed, such as hiring a full-time officer with a part-time chief. This could be feasible and the City would get more coverage than needed if they would like to explore this option in the future.

Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner then read the Calls for Service for Lake Benton for the period of time he covered October 7 thru 31. During this time, the department handled 15 calls for service and additional calls were taken through the County. The total calls were approximately 35 for the month, which is average for Lake Benton.

The Council inquired if Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner will assist the Maintenance Department with getting vehicles moved during a snow emergency. Police Chief Jeff Bumgarner said that he will assist as it is a public safety issue as well. **MOTION** by Dave Enke, seconded by Mark Dunn to approve the Police Report for October. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Mark Dunn – No report.

Trustee Rosie DeZeeuw – No report.

Trustee Dave Enke – The Library Board met and the Friends of the Library are having two fund raisers to go towards library initiatives. One of the fund raisers is selling fudge with a deadline to order of November 15, 2019. The fudge will be delivered the middle of December. The second fund raiser is they will be selling screen printed t-shirts. The Library Holiday Open House is scheduled for Saturday, December 7, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. The annual staff reviews are scheduled to take place in December. The board is reviewing the 2019 goals, and working on setting the 2020 goals.

Trustee Daryl Schlapkohl – No report.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

No report.

MAYORAL REPORT:

There are some issues at the Event Center the City needs to take care of. The City needs to do a walk-thru before the money is refunded to the previous renter.

Mayor Bob Worth then informed the Council he will not be at the November 18, 2019 meeting and Acting Mayor Rosie DeZeeuw will preside.

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

ACTING MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK