

**CITY OF BERTHA**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA**  
**HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**JUNE 8, 2015**

**Members Present:** Zimmerman, Olson, Hoemberg, Bowman and Nelson  
**Staff Present:** Public Works Templin, Police Berndt and Clerk Umland  
**Guest Present:** Barb Mares, Pete Wallner, Randy Chock, Trinity Gruenberg, Dean & Donna Klebs, Marv Stokes, Joeb Oyster, Amy & Aaron Botzet.

**Declaring a quorum, Mayor Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Public Comment**

Dean Klebs questioned Trinity Gruenberg from the Independent News Herald about two errors reporting the May meeting. The first one was stating that Ken Nelson was in attendance this was clarified by stating that Mr. Nelson attended only the special meeting. The second mistake that Mr. Chock retrieved the complaint where it should have stated Member Olson. Ms. Mares voiced her opinion how the minutes were written concerning the nuisance issue.

**4. Communications Reports**

**A.** Reviewed the enterprise reports for May – no questions

**B. Fire/Ambulance Reports – No one in attendance from the Ambulance Department**

Mr. Wallner informed the council that the fire department first responders will only be dispatched out only when ambulance department request them. Clerk Umland informed Mr. Wallner that the Lance Christenson property was not purchased so the department can use it for a control burn.

**C. Law Enforcement** – Mr. Berndt presented the council with his May monthly activity report. The monthly report showed violations for Bertha as follows: 23-citizen calls, 1-accident, 4-citations, 4-warnings, 7-assist agencies and 0-vehicle unlock. Mr. Berndt stated that he issued an administrative citation to a resident for accumulation of garbage in his garage.

**D. Public Works Report** – Council reviewed the May Public Works maintenance activity report submitted by Mr. Templin. Mr. Templin got the okay to clean up Memorial Park (south of the Lion's Bldg). The council gave him permission to cut down the south line of dying trees and have the stumps ground up. The council suggested renting a stump grinder for \$65.00. The old flag pole will be removed since the veterans don't use it anymore. Mr. Templin will coordinate with the fire department and have some cement work done under the current benches. There was a short discussion about the PH level at the ponds. Mr. Templin explained the cost to treat for PH was expensive and possibly cheaper to pay the fine if imposed on the city. At the current time, the penalty is a letter and no monetary fine.

**E. Clerk's Report – see overview of June agenda**

**5. Consider Business Items**

**A. Nuisance Property** – Mr. Berndt address the council on the progress of the residents that received a nuisance letter. He will do a follow- up inspection of the properties along with Member Bowman. A short discussion on controlling noxious weeds and those landowners are required to control or eradicate noxious weeds on their property especially on vacant parcels.

**B. Citizen's Complaints** – No information from city attorney on the three complaints,

**C. Playground surfacing materials** – It was suggested by Clerk Umland to rake the current playground surface material and hold off until 2016 to add additional wood fiber to the surface area of the playground.

**D. Almquist Construction - A** brief discussion on replacing the kitchen and entrance doors on the Lion's Bldg. Mr. Wallner suggested the entrance door should have a metal frame. The proposal was for removal and installation of two new doors. Motion by Hoemberg, seconded by Member Bowman to replace and install new doors with steel frames on the west entrance and the kitchen area of the Lion's Building by Almquist Construction not to exceed \$900.00 Carried

**E. Bertha Bear Days - Amy Botzet**, chairman of the parade, updated the council on the route of the parade for this year festival. Mr. Wallner updated the council about other events that are planned for the celebration and where they would be held. At this time, the fire department feels that there should be no admission charge. Another concern is about having the bathrooms available at the Community Center because some people do not like using porta potties. No decision was made about leaving the community center open at night.

**F. WSN Study – street project** Clerk Umland shared information from Jeff, WSN, about the preliminary engineer's estimate for street improvements. A rough estimate for construction, contingency, design engineering, staking & inspection for street repairs is approximately \$900,000.00. WSN will supply the council with more precise information for the July meeting.

## **6. Review and Adopt the Consent Agenda**

**Note:** The Consent Agenda listed those items of business which are considered to be routine and/or which need no discussion. Consent items may be moved to an appropriate section of the regular agenda for discussion.

Mayor Zimmerman asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to be made to the Consent Agenda. Hoemberg moved, Bowman seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the following items; with all members voting in favor. Carried.

- A.** Approval of May 11, 2015, Regular Council Minutes and minute's summary of the closed meeting.
- B.** Approval of May Disbursement & authorized issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments plus Claims 14803 & 14804.
- C.** Review bank correspondence – Investments & Bank Statements
- D.** Fire Relief Association Temporary Liquor License- The council was presented with a one day temporary On-Sale Liquor License application from the Bertha Firemen Relief Association. the Relief Association is holding a tractor pull at the New Addition Lots. The application shows that the Association is obtaining insurance through Ebner Agency. The Relief Association will also be selling liquor at the Bertha Bear Street Dance located at areas designated on the application.
- E.** Approved the Variance request to Minnesota Rule 4720.0030 to maintain an average fluoride concentration of 0.7 mg/L
- F.** Council reviewed the state demographer population estimate of 482 and household estimate 201. This was a decrease from the prior year estimate.
- G.** Adopting Resolution 2015-12 appointing the City Clerk as a Responsible Authority to administer the requirements of collection, storage, use, and dissemination of data on individuals, within the city and Data Compliance Official to whom persons may direct questions or concerns about problems in obtaining access to data or other data practices problems.

## **7. Committee Reports**

**A. Personnel** – City Clerk is currently revising the Personnel Policy

**B. Police Commission** – Mayor Zimmerman & Member Bowman attended the annual police commission meeting at the Eagle Bend City Hall. The Eagle Bend committee requested that the Bertha City Council do a three to four year commitment for police service this would help them budget for a vehicle.

MOTION by Nelson, seconded by Member Olson to approve renewal of the contract for three additional years. Carried. Clerk Umland will contact Administrator Hess and have him draw a new police service agreement between the cities of Eagle Bend and Bertha with the term of the agreement shall be for four years from the date of enactment this will include the one year we currently have left on the contract. The contract will not increase because of the purchase of a vehicle since they budget annually a set amount for this purchase.

## **8. Meeting/Conference/Correspondence**

**A. RD Grant Fund Closing** – The last disbursement for the Bertha Authority Project was made. The city had an unused balance of \$7,014.52 on the Rural Development grant. Mayor Zimmerman signed a Deobligation Request Form so that these funds can be returned to the Treasury and the construction file then could be closed with USDA.

**B. Braaten Aggregate Quote** - This quote is to install a cement culvert in the road going to the pond system. The city received \$9,020.85 from FEMA/State to have this culvert installed. The flood waters from 2014 at this site caused a wash out. In order to prevent future damages from a similar event, the FEMA adjuster proposed that the city have this done right with the cost being paid through disaster funds.

**C. Emergency Siren** – The cost of the control panel that was damaged by lightning was covered under LMCIT insurance.

**D. Consumer Confidence Report** will be posted on the bulletin board at city hall. A copy of the report is available upon request at the city office.

**E. Meuser Law Office** – Mayor Zimmerman stated that a law suit has been filed on a recent injured volunteer firefighter. The volunteer is seeking vocational training as a way to increase her chances of productivity as her career.

**F. LMC Board** is scheduled to increase dues by 5% for the 2016 fiscal year.

**G. Regional Safety Group** – Small cities often struggle to meet training and other requirements of the state and federal OSHA. With the help of the league, neighboring communities can come together as partners to become OSHA compliance. The LMC is working with us to form a regional safety group with will not cost the city any money. The NJPA and League will split the cost.

**H. Small Cities Funding for Streets** – The League led an effort to secure new dedicated state funding for large and small cities for street maintenance. The legislature has passed a bill for \$12.5 million to be set aside for helping small cities with ever-growing infrastructure needs. The City of Bertha is expected to received \$11,192.00 which will be distributed along with their July and December LGA payment. Joeb Oyster, Moore Engineering, was in attendance to see if the council was satisfied with the correction made at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> St NW/1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW. Mr. Wallner agreed he felt the correction that was made would work.

**Meeting** – Clerk Umland had a list of dates that she would be away from the office to attend meetings and personal commitment.

## **9. Adjournment**

There was no further business to come before the City Council, Council Member Hoemberg moved; Member Nelson seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members in favor motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

