

CITY OF BERTHA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA
HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014

The council met at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting to continue work on the comprehensive update to the Bertha City Ordinances. When completed and approved by the City Council, the updated version of the City Code will be posted on our website. The only official edition of the City Code is the printed version maintained at the City Clerk's Office and also available for the public on our city website.

Members Present: Council members Zimmerman, Olson, Hoemberg & Mayor Klebs.

Members Absent: Councilmember Hammond – requested absent because of medical

Staff Present: Clerk Umland, Public Works Templin and Police Berndt

Guest Present: Marv Stokes, Pete Wallner, Roger Schahn, Randy Chock, Kathy Kleen, Rachael Amiot, Carolynn Bisel and Trinity Gruenberg.

Declaring a quorum, Mayor Klebs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. 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 are acted upon by one motion. If discussion is desired by council, that item may be moved to an appropriate section of the regular agenda for discussion.

Mayor Klebs asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions to be made to the Consent Agenda. **Zimmerman moved, Olson seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the following items: with all members present voting in favor, with Mayor Klebs abstaining due to conflict of interest. Mayor Klebs abstained due to Check #13997 for \$50.00.**

- A. Approval of February 10, 2014 Regular Council Minutes & summary of the Closed Executive Session Minutes at the February Regular Meeting that was read to the public. All in all Mayor Klebs stated that Templin received a good review by the Council.
- B. Approval of February Disbursements and Authorized Issuance in accordance with list provided.
- C. Reviewed bank correspondence – Investments & Bank Statement
- D. Approved Independent News Herald 2014 Promotion Schedule with a \$488 value for \$150. The Independent News Herald will promote the city with a full page ad in recognition of 20 events during the year.
- E. **Resolution 2014-04** accepting \$250 for Bear Country Days for youth activities from ACS

4. Public Comment

It was noted that there were no citizens present to address the Council on non-agenda items.

5. Consider Business Items

- A. **Bertha Area Wellness Center-** Rachel Amiot, Wellness Coordinator & Event Planner, emphasized the key to the fitness center is to provide a convenient option for people to access health education and the resources they need to improve their overall wellness

during traditional and non-traditional business hours. She stressed the importance to provide a secure facility for all fitness stages and offer something for everyone. I want people to feel comfortable and welcome them coming to the BAWC and that it's a safe place to begin improving their overall wellness. The center will open on March 15th for the community. Kathy Kleen shared the rates and informed the council that they probably will be the lowest around and are currently working with insurance companies for some members to get reimbursed. Amiot said she is more concerned about improving the health and fitness of area residents. Bertha Area Wellness Center is a compact center but will be a superb facility with well-spaced and well-equipped commercial-grade equipment for a small community. Rachel's plan is to continue to reach out to the area and encourage fitness and good physical health. It is our goal to keep current members enthused and focused as well as attract new members to the fitness center.

6. Communications Reports

A. Review the enterprise reports

B. Fire/Ambulance Report – Mr. Wallner had nothing to report on at this meeting except to remind the council of the upcoming chili feed on March 15th. Clerk Umland informed the council that the ambulance department has received their new defib which they will be trained on this week. The department received a grant from the American Heart Association to purchase this piece of equipment.

C. Law Enforcement – Police Berndt presented his February monthly activity report. The report showed violations as follows: 3-accidents, 15-citizen calls, 3-citations, 3-warnings, 2-public assists, 3-investigations, 5-assist other agencies and 1-alarm. He is currently busy with the DARE program at both schools.

D. Public Works – Supervisor Templin presented the February monthly activity report.

His computer is all set up and files transferred

Read water meters

Worked on items at the sewer plant office

He reviewed his department task and status schedule. The council on a consensus decided that the high priority items on the list be done.

- *Straighten up fence around waste water treatment plant including the entrance gate
- * finish removing scrap and misc. construction debris from wastewater treatment plant
- * RV Park Bathrooms – install vent fans, and paint floors
- * install plugins at the Community Center next to roof for heat tapes
- * remove pipes and misc. scrap iron from new waste water plant holding tank
- * vac out silt/sand from new waste water holding tank
- * install rip/rap at Ditch 15 through the river park

The council had a brief discussion on the condition of the sidewalks in town. Councilmember Zimmerman stated that it is a tough economic time and with tight city budget it means that we should think "outside the box"; especially when we develop plans and procedures for inspecting, maintaining, and repairing streets and sidewalks. When the city becomes aware of hazardous situations, it should take reasonable steps to warn pedestrians and have the owner eliminate the hazard. The council felt we should focus our efforts on high pedestrian traffic areas, especially the sidewalks going to the school and business area. It is also very important for the city to follow-up on all complaints. It was mentioned that some of the sidewalks are in good condition but are overgrown with grass.

Next on Mr. Templin's agenda was requesting the importance of treating the ponds. His information package included a handout from Team Lab about a wastewater treatment program for the primary and secondary ponds. The startup program for secondary ponds would ensure rapid biological growth and provide competitive organisms to prevent undesirable algae and duckweed. The startup cost is \$1,800 to add 150 lbs. (\$12. Per lb.) directly into the secondary pond. The next step would be a maintenance dosage for the system by adding 3 lbs. per week directly into primary ponds or last lift station going out to ponds. The cost of the maintenance dosage is \$16.00 per pound. This comes in a 50 pound pail that contains 40 one pound water soluble pouches. Mega Bugs Plus is a micronutrient blend that provides a complete formulation for maximum biological activity that reacts with municipal waste to biologically enhance the following:

- Sludge buildup
- Reduces odor
- Produces an excellent effluent
- Defers dredging cost
- Improves cold weather operation
- Controls grease, foaming, or scum formation
- Improves settling

Motion Zimmerman, seconded by Member Hoemberg approving the wastewater treatment program from Team Lab to eliminate pond system issues. Carried.

Mr. Templin was honored by MRWA Association with a plaque at their annual conference in St. Cloud which he presented to the council. Mr. Templin won the award for Outstanding Achievement for the services he provided during the Bertha Authority Project. There is only one of these awards given out each year during the conference for outstanding service to the community.

E *Clerk's Report – overview of March agenda*

7. Committee Report – none for March

8. Meeting/Conference/Correspondence

- A. Reviewed correspondence from Mn Dept of Labor
- B. Reminder about having three members present for Board of Appeals Meeting
- C. Reviewed information on Training on Sales Tax
- D. Reviewed correspondence from LMC on upcoming legislation

9. Adjournment

There was no further business to come before the City Council. Councilmember Zimmerman moved, Member Olson second the motion to adjourn. With all members in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.