

**CITY OF BERTHA
TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA
REGULAR MEETING OF CITY OF BERTHA
HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016**

Members Present: Zimmerman, Olson & Hoemberg
Members Absent: Bowman & Nelson
Staff Present: Umland & Berndt
Guest Present: Mark Turner, Marv Stokes, Pete Wallner, Gerald Berndt, Barb Mares, Roger Schahn, Trinity Gruenberg.

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

Public Hearing for Delinquent Alty Assessment scheduled for 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Zimmerman opened the public hearing for an unpaid special assessment billing. No one was present to contest the unpaid assessment billing so the meeting was closed. The unpaid bill will be submitted to MN Recapture for collection. A letter was sent to the homeowner notifying them of the upcoming hearing.

Public Comments:

An opportunity for members of the public to address the City Council on items not on the current agenda. Items requiring Council action maybe deferred to staff or committees for research and future Council Agendas, if appropriate. There was no one under unscheduled business to address the Council.

4. Communications Reports

A. Enterprise Reports – February reports were reviewed

B. Fire/Ambulance Reports – No was present on behalf of the Bertha Ambulance.

Mr. Wallner reported that the township meeting went well and the contracts were extended for two years. Ham Bingo fundraiser was a big hit and at the time of the council meeting did not know how much was raised. The fire department is working with Mark Fay, Traditions Bar & Grill, on events associated with Bertha Day activities. An estimate from Pete’s Lumber was reviewed to install a new door on the east side of the fire hall with insurance possibly covering the cost less deductible.

MOTION by Hoemberg, seconded by Member Olson to approve replacing the east door of the fire hall and spending approximately \$825.00 to cover the expense of installation, door opener and wiring. Carried.

There was a brief discussion about a house burn on 4th Street. It was decided to contact owner and have them make a commitment. They would be responsible to pay up front the cost and then the money would be put in an escrow. Once burned they would be reimbursed some of the cost. Clerk Umland will contact the property owner and work with them.

C. Law Enforcement - Mr. Berndt presented his February activity report. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 7-citizen calls, 8-citations, 1-alarm, 5-warnings, 7-public assists, 1-investigations and 5-assist other agencies. It was decided to advertise the ATV in the local newspaper and not put it on MN bid. The ad will read **as is** to whoever is willing to place a bid. County Attorney has agreed to provide the city with prosecution services for \$87.50 per month for the remainder of 2016. An agreement will be sent out and need to be signed by Mayor Zimmerman and Clerk Umland.

D. Public Works Report – council reviewed the February Public Works activity report submitted by Mr. Templin who wasn’t in attendance. Some highlights for the month included; worked with MN Power & Light with clearing branches from the main line, repair of water line at the Muller residence,

walking bridge over Ditch 15 was repaired, attendance at the MRWA conference and getting the street sweeper ready. Ms. Mares asked if the public works department could remove the dirt & gravel piles left as result of snowplowing in the alley adjacent to her property.

D. Clerk's Overview – review prior to meeting and they didn't have any questions.

Mayor Zimmerman introduced Mark Turner who has recently purchased the vacant lot adjacent to the Corner Market. He asked several questions about if he decides to construct self-storage units on the property what the setback policy is for commercial business. The size of the lot 45X90. It was suggested that he contact state and county highway departments prior to making any decisions.

5. Consider Business Items

A. Nuisance Property – The council reviewed the documents that City Attorney Churchwell sent to Gerald Berndt. The letter stated he will hold onto the documents for twenty days have passed from the date of service. If Mr. Berndt does not comply with the ordinance, or otherwise filed a response with him, he will file the documents with the District Court asking them to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Berndt mentioned splitting the lots and make the city start the procedure all over. He would then apply for a variance to park the camper on the other lot. Clerk Umland reminded the council that the matter is in the hands of the city attorney. That Mr. Berndt must deal with the city attorney if he has any questions.

B. No new update from the engineers.

6. Review and Adopt the Consent Agenda

Note: The Consent Agenda listed those items of business which are considered to be routine which need no discussion. Consent items are acted upon by one motion. If discussion is desired by council, that item may be removed to an appropriate section of the regular agenda for discussion.

Mayor Zimmerman asked if there were any additions, corrections, deletions to be made to the Consent Agenda. Olson moved, Hoemberg seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with all members present voting in favor. The agenda items include the following:

- A. Approval of February 8, 2016 Regular Council Minutes
- B. Approval of February Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments
- C. Review bank correspondence- Investments & Bank Statement
- D. Zoning Permit 2016-01- Martin Schmidlin – 16X24 addition
- E. Adoption of Mutual Aid Agreement-Todd/Wadena Counties Fire Association the only change was two signatures from the city are required.

7. Committee Report

None

8. Meeting/Conference/Correspondence

- A. Review only – Central States Tower
- B. Cottage Food Law – Review correspondence from Dept. of Ag
- C. EMS review correspondence on new recommendations
- D. Board of Review – Reminder that the meeting needs a quorum of the council.
- E. Long Pines Bar & Restaurant paid off the \$15,000.00 loan
- F. MN Energy – correspondence of possible rate increase pending before the MN Public Utilities Commission.

9. Adjournment

There was no further business to come before the City Council, Member Olson moved; Member Hoemberg seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members in favor motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

