

CITY OF BERTHA
Regular Meeting of the City of Bertha
Held at the Bertha Community Center
April 13, 2020

Members Present: D. Nelson, Bowman, Captain, Olson & Mayor Nelson

Staff Present: Clerk Umland & Public Works Templin

Guest Present: Todd County Deputy John Decock, Pete Wallner, Russ Vandenheuvel, Amy Botzet and Karen Winkler. Mayor Nelson asked Amy Botzet and Karen Winkler to leave the meeting due to limiting the meeting to 10 attendees due to the COVID-19. A sign on the door stating a maximum of only 10 attendees would be allowed.

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

3. Unscheduled Public Appearance:

An opportunity for members of the public to address the City Council on items not on the current agenda. Items requiring Council action may be deferred to staff or committee for research and future agenda, if appropriate.

No one in attendance had any concerns.

4. Communications Reports

A. Review the Enterprise Reports for March – no questions

B. Fire/Ambulance Reports – Chief Wallner had a brief report informing the council that burning restriction have been put on the county. He stated that possibly they will have 2 new recruits for next month.

Ambulance Director Vandenheuvel recommend approving Amanda Hansen for assistant ambulance director. Mr. Vandenheuvel informed the council on all the precautions that are being done to help keep the EMT protected from getting the COVID-19. He stressed the importance of getting a stackable washer/dryer for doing bedding and crew's clothing. The crew going out on a call does not know if they are subjected to a communicable disease or virus, or shows symptoms of such. If they think they are subjected they are expected to shower immediately. They are asking the crew to have extra clothing along. At least, this will help to protect them from bringing anything home on their clothing. Two quotes were presented to the council. Motion by Member D. Nelson, seconded by Member Olson to purchase a Speed Queen Stackable from Eagle Bend Lumber not to exceed \$4,000.00 including installation. Carried. Tri-County Healthcare asked if the Bertha Ambulance Service would be able to transport COVID patients to St. Cloud or Wilmar. Vandenheuvel explained that there would be an issue since Bertha is staffed with only volunteer and not paid employees.

C. Law Enforcement-Todd County Sheriff Department provided a March activity report that summarizes the calls received in their department during the month. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 2-animal complaints, 1-domestic assault without weapon, 1-public assist 1-theft, 8-traffic stops, 1-welfare check and 12-miscellaneous calls.

D. Public Works Report – Mr. Templin provided the council with his March activity report which summarizes work done within his department. His activity report included: flushing hydrants, street sweeping, working with getting quotes for sewer issue under Cty Rd 24 and attended the MNRWA Conference in St. Cloud. The council asked him to barricade the snow piles. He informed the council that Ideal Construction will be back this summer to fix the road by the Lions Building.

E. Clerk's Review- for review only of the agenda

5. Consider Business Items

A. Ambulance Purchase Update – On March 10th USDA gave the city notice to proceed with the procurement of the new ambulance and related equipment. Mr. Vandenheuvel stated the arrival date for the ambulance is November 5th.

B. Sanitary Sewer Main in front of Salon Renew – Mr. Templin has received quotes to repair the area where the breach occurred. The three quotes totaled \$16,934.00 to correct the problem. The last correspondence that the city attorney received from Wagner Construction is that they are taking the stance that this was an undisclosed condition which did not allow them to complete the required potholing to avoid the utility conflict. At this time, Wagner Construction is denying the claim. The city attorney will proceed in composing a litigation memo to be presented to Wagner Construction. A copy of the memo will be provided to the city council for approval prior to sending it to Wagner Construction.

C. Housing Grant Rehab Application-Central Minnesota Home Rehab was discussed. The funds, if awarded, would be used for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation. Both cities would have to pass a resolution when applying for the grant but this will not have to be done until you are ready to start the grant application. The grantwriter will contact the city the end of May to start the process. Motion by Member D. Nelson, seconded by Member Bowman authorizing CMHP to apply on behalf of the City of Bertha and the City of Hewitt for a Small Cities Development Preliminary Grant Application for owner occupied residential Rehabilitation for eligible households with a cost of \$2,250 being split between the two communities. Carried. The first step of the grant is doing a survey documenting the potential need and interest for the grant.

D. Nuisance Property – A letter will be sent to the property owner on a abandoned house located at 109 4th Street. The city wide cleanup has been tabled until the May meeting. Brief discussion was held on the old Bertha Enterprise Buildings.

6. Consider Consent Agenda-Action required

Note: The Consent Agenda list 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 K. Nelson asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to be made to the Consent Agenda. Motion by Olson, seconded by Member Bowman to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. The consent agenda included the following items:

A. Approved the March 9, 2020 Regular Council Minutes

B. Approval of the March Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronics payments –along with Claim Nos. 17818-17826 dated in April in the amount of \$9,654.45.

C. Review Bank Correspondence –Bank Statements & Investment Report

D. The council reviewed the current condition of the Bertha Relief Association Pension Plan. The city municipal contribution is zero. The complete copy of the FIRE-19 is on file at the city office.

E. Approval Ambulance Director Assistant – Mr. Vandenheuvel recommended Amanda Hansen to fill this position because of her experience.

F. 2019 Consumer Confidence Report – has been submitted to the Department of Health, which is an annual report, this is a snap shot of water quality for the city over the past year. The complete report is on file at the City Clerk's Office. Each year, all community water systems must distribute a drinking water report to their customers. Since our population is

under 500, the city only is required to post a notice that states the report is available upon request.

- G.** Resolution 2020-16- Resolution accepting donation for \$279.69 from Gappa Oil to be used towards equipment for the fire department.
- H.** Resolution 2020-15- Resolution accepting a donation for \$1,500.00 from Minnesota Power & Light to be used for the purchase of the new ambulance.

7. Committee Report

A. Bear Country Days- nothing to report will decide at the May meeting if they should cancel the summer celebration.

8. Correspondence/Meeting/Conference

- A. Board of Equalization** – remember that the board will meet at the Community Center at 10:00 a.m. on April 15th.
- B.** League of Mn Cities – information on closing parks & campground. The council felt the park and campground should remain closed.
- C.** Tri-County Health Care Patient Appointment Guidance – for review only to know the schedule of the different satellite clinic and what each one is specializing in.

9 Adjournment

There was no further business to come before the City Council. Member Bowman moved; Member Captain seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members present in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.. Carried.