

**CITY OF BERTHA
TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA
HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2018**

Present: Mayor K. Nelson, Members Olson, D. Nelson, Bowman and Captain

Staff: Clerk Umland, Police Berndt and Public Works Templin

Guest: Pete Wallner, Marv Stokes, Russ Vandenheuvel, Mark Fay, Marlo Benning and Karen Winkler.

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 – No one in attendance addressed the council

4. Communications Reports

A. Enterprise Reports – November Reports – review only

B. Fire/Ambulance Reports - Chief Wallner stated that they were denied the grant from Minnesota Department of Safety/State Fire Marshall Assistance Matching Grant to assist with the purchase of turnout gear washer/extractor dryer.

Ambulance Report- Chief Vandenheuvel provided the council with 4th quarter statistics having 48 calls. His biggest concern was the increase no load calls. He informed the council that the ambulance should be available for use on Friday. The council reviewed the estimate to have the ambulance repaired after the accident.

C. Law Enforcement – Mr. Berndt presented the council with his November activity report. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 10-citizen calls, 1-citation, 2 –warnings, 2-arrests, 2-public assist, 2-investigations, 2-assist other agencies, 3 alarms and 3 vehicles unlocks. He questioned the council on snow removal on sidewalks. The council felt he should talk to residents as soon as possible if they don't remove snow from their sidewalks. A letter has been sent out to all residents about the city ordinance pertaining to parking and snow removal.

D. Public Works Report- Mr. Templin supplied the council with his November Maintenance Report for the council to review and give comments. He informed the council that the sander on the big dump truck would need to be replaced next year and cost approximately \$5,000.00. Member Bowman questioned how many times the city worker does notifies a homeowner to pay their utility bill prior to shut-off.

E. Clerk's Report- for the council information – Clerk Umland informed the council that the Mn Department Recapture Program has selected the city for an audit of claims that have been submitted for collection for some of the ambulance runs. I have two weeks to provide them with information for the audit. The council approved allowing me to carryover five days of vacation to be used in January and February, if needed.

5. Consider Business Items

A. Pond Easement Road – has been put on hold until more information is available

B. Bertha Manhole Rehabilitation – Mr. Templin had an estimate available from J & J Excavating for replacing the four manholes on County Road 24 at the cost of \$10,000.00 each to install new structure. Mr. Templin is to contact Todd County to see if they would pay for replacing the tar.

C. 2019 Liquor License Fee – The 2019 liquor license fee (on/offsale intoxicating liquor) was set at \$1,000.00 at the 2018 annual meeting. Mr. Fay (owner of Traditions Bar & Grill) pleaded last month to consider making the liquor licenses more affordable for him. He stated he is asking all his vendors and suppliers for reductions to cut costs. At that time, the council tabled making the decision until the December meeting. The council held a lengthy discussion on if it should be reduced and if so what would be the new charge. Mr. Fay stressed that he has done a lot for the community. Member Olson replied others have to. Mayor Nelson said he feels they don't want to tax anyone out of business. Member D. Nelson didn't think they should raise the license fee so significantly and moved to set the liquor fee at \$500.00. The motion failed due to a lack of second. Then they held another discussion about what the fee should be. After more discussion, Member Bowman made a motion to keep the license at the \$750 which is what it was in 2018 and set the Sunday license at \$200. Again the motion failed due to the lack of a second. Mayor Nelson suggested he would not like the establishment be closed due to the high cost of license. Mr. Fay stated that all area establishments are having trouble financially. Beer prices have gone up in the last few years and he still charging the same price to his customers.

It was moved by Member Bowman, seconded by Member D. Nelson and carried unanimously to approve the fee for on/off sale liquor be \$600.00 and Sunday Liquor for \$200.00 for 2019 contingent upon receiving all the necessary paperwork. The annual renewal list, which includes certificates of liquor liability, compliance of worker's compensation insurance, copy of restaurant license issued by the state, copy of retailer's buyer's card, proof that all property taxes, assessments, or other financial claims of the City are not delinquent and unpaid.

6. Consider Consent Agenda

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, corrections, or deletions to be made to the Consent Agenda. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Member Olson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with all members present voting in favor. The following agenda items include the following:

- A. Approval of the November 13, 2018 Regular Council Minutes
- B. Approval of November Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronics payments
- C. Review Bank Correspondence – Bank Statement & Investment Report
- D. Approve tobacco license renewals for the following establishments, for the period of January 1, 2019-December 31, 2019 pending receipt and acceptance of all application materials, as recommended by the city.
 - Seven Oaks Express – 316 Main Street West – 2019-02
 - Corner Market -305 Main Street West – 2019-01
- E. Approved Resolution 2018-42 to formalize the commitment of different fund balances for specified purposes. Council action required.
- F. Renewal of the 2019 Lutheran Social Service Site Agreement- A copy of the agreement with LSS was presented for the Nutrition Site Use at the Bertha Community Center with the annual fee of \$62.00.

7. Committee Report

- A. Consider Approval of a Salary Increase for the City Employees

The personnel committee presented the council with their recommendation for city employee's salaries for 2019.

A motion by Captain, seconded by Member Bowman, Resolution 2018-43 entitled "Resolution Setting 2019 Employee Compensation" was introduced. Upon a roll call vote, Ayes' all members, Nays-None, the Resolution was declared passed and adopted effective the first pay period of 2019. The following wages were approved as follows:

Public Works Supervisor	\$38,292.80/\$18.41	Grade 6 Step 4
City Clerk	\$43,513.60/\$20.92	Grade 6 Step 10
Part-Time Maintenance Worker	\$14.00 per hour	Grade 1 Step 2

Clerk Umland asked the council if she could carry over up to five days of vacation due to the Mn Recapture Audit and would use them up during January and February. The council authorized her to carry over unused vacation days.

8. Correspondence/Meeting/Conference

A. Member D. Nelson moved, seconded by Bowman to approve donating to Hilltop Regional Kitchen in the amount of 472.00 in 2019. Motion carried.

B. The November, 2019 regular council meeting was rescheduled to November 12th due to the observance of Veteran's Day being a holiday.

C. 2019 Insurance – Mayor Nelson will be discussing with Steve Peterson about replacement value of one the fire truck. If something happen the insurance will only pay what it's worth and not what they have invested in the truck.

D. 2019 Officials designations and appointments – no changes

E. Request from Marlo Benning to move our monthly meeting to another day. Denied the request

F. Bertha Physical Therapy Clinic - Briefly discussed the physical clinic closing due to financial performance of the clinic and the small patient base. Contributing to the poor financial performance is the fact that payors such as Blue Cross, Medicare and Medicaid do not provide adequate reimbursement to the clinic for services and payments are being further reduced in 2019.

9. Adjournment

There was no further business to come before the City Council. Member Bowman moved; Member D. Nelson seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Carried.