***City of Bertha***

***Regular Meeting of the City of Bertha***

***Held at the Bertha Community Center***

***February 10, 2020***

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

***Staff Present:*** Clerk Umland & Public Works Templin

***Guest Present:*** Pete Wallner, Marv Stokes, Karen Winkler, Russ Vandenheuvel,

 Trinity Gruenberg and Dennis Zimmerman.

***Declaring a quorum, Mayor 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.

 Mayor K. Nelson asked if anyone had any comments or concerns on anything which was not on the agenda. No one had comments or concerns.

***4. Communications Reports***

 ***A. Review the Enterprise Reports for January –*** no questions

 **B. Fire/Ambulance Reports –** ISO (Insurance Services Office), which is an independent, for-profit organization met with Chief Wallner. The ISO scores fire department on how they are doing against its organization’s standards to determine property insurance costs. After analyzing the data it collects, the ISO assigns a Public Protection Classification on a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being the best. The department will receive the ISO rating within 8 months. The fire department will hold their annual township meeting on February 18th presenting each township with a two year service contract for signage. Mayor K. Nelson questioned Mr. Wallner about plans for our summer festival. He stated that the tractor pull is a go with a committee working on booking a band. Mayor Nelson stated he would like the band to play on the street adjacent to Long Pine Bar & Restaurant. The fire department biggest concern is moving all the equipment to the location since they don’t have enough manpower. Member D Nelson will serve as chairman of the committee for the summer festival.

 ***C. Law Enforcement-***Todd County Sheriff Department provided a January activity report that summarizes the calls received in their department during the month. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 2-alarms, 6-ambulance, 1-burgulary, 1-domestic assault, 1 –public assist, 2-suspicious activity, 6-traffic stops, and 9-misc calls.

 ***D. Public Works Report –*** Mr. Templin provided the council with his January activity report which summarizes work done within his department. His activity report included all the repairs that had been done to the snow removal equipment during the month. The Sentence-To-Serve delivered the picnic tables that had been made. He included two estimates along with his report. Rockland Manufacturing provided an estimate for a 6 yard bucket with a suggested price of $17,490.00 which was put on hold. The other quote was for a stainless sander from Little Falls Machine, Inc. for $4,240.00 which Eagle Bend Welding constructed for $2,800.00.

 ***E. Clerk’s Review –*** for review only of the agenda

***5. Consider Business Items***

 ***A. Emergency Vehicle Update- City*** Attorney Krueger replied that based on the information provided to him its appears Savvik Purchasing complies with MN competitive bidding law for the purchase of new ambulance. They provided him with a list of cities in our area that have purchased new ambulances through this purchasing group. The City Council will need to pass a resolution authorizing the purchase of the new emergency vehicle through the Savvik Purchasing Group. A donation of $1,500.00 was awarded from Todd-Wadena Operation Roundup. ***Approval to submit USDA Grant-Emergency Vehicle Purchase-*** the Bertha City Council has received communication from the USDA that our preliminary application was conditionally approved, and we are now invited to submit the actual grant application. The submittal of the grant application requires the City to hold a public hearing to hear comments related to the application; the requisite public hearing will be held March 9, 2020 at 6:35 p.m. accepting a USDA grant will help save the city considerable funds in the purchase of the new emergency vehicle. The City Council must approve the submittal of the grant application.

***Motion*** by Member Bowman, seconded by Member D. Nelson to approve the submittal of the USDA grant application by adoption of Resolution 2020-10. Roll Call vote: Yeas: Mayor K. Nelson, Olson, Bowman, D. Nelson and Captain. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

 ***B. Sanitary Sewer Main in front of Salon Renew –*** A letter was sent to Wagner Construction by the city attorney on January 31, 2020. The city attorney has given the company opportunity to correct the defect themselves and at their cost. They have been given 10 days to contact his office to avoid a legal case.

 ***C. Housing Rehab Grant Application –*** At the January meeting, the council asked to get a proposal from a grant writer interested in applying for funds through Department of Employment & Economic Development Small Cities Development Program. Clerk Umland contacted two grant writers but only one submitted a proposal. Central Mn Housing Partnership was interested in working with the City of Bertha on a Small Cities Development Program grant application. The council tabled this matter to see if the City of Hewitt would be interested in partnering with the City of Bertha. Also, Clerk Umland is to find out what the cost to the city would be that would not be covered by the grant.

 ***D. Holiday Decorations -*** Four new holiday pole decorations were ordered by the Bertha Community Club. The new decorations will be a 6 foot incandescent blue/white snowflake at a cost of $270.00 each plus shipping of $320.00.

 ***E. Sentence-To-Serve - This*** is a sentencing alternative for court that puts nonviolent offenders to work on community improvement projects. Supervised STS crews work a lot in parks and other public areas in different communities. Local government agencies may submit projects that will improve the community. Our project that the City of Bertha submitted was to construct 10 new picnic tables with two being handicap accessible. In return for work done, organizations are expected to donate money to the STS. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Bowman to donate $200.00 to STS for constructing picnic tables. Carried.

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

1. Approved the January 13, 2020 Regular Council Minutes
2. Approval of the January Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments – along with Claim Nos. 17705-17715 dated February 02/06/2020 in the amount of $10,736.92.
3. Review Bank Correspondence –Bank Statement & Investment Report
4. ***Mn Lawful Gambling –Bingo-Bertha Firemen’s Relief Association***

The Mn Lawful Gambling LG240B Application to conduct Excluded Bingo for the Relief Association to hold a Bingo event on April 4, 2020, at the Bertha Community Center located at 127 2nd Ave NW, Bertha, MN 56437 was presented. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to be able to complete the application on behalf of the City of Bertha prior to submitting the application for approval from the state.

1. Approved holding a Public Hearing on March 9th at 6:35 p.m. –informational meeting to discuss the purchase of a new emergency vehicle, including potential funding sources, including USDA Rural Development.
2. ***2020 Fire Service Contracts***-A two year contract will be presented to each township that they serve which will expire on March, 2022. The Standby Fee is a fee charged to the township for having the fire department available to provide services. This fee is billed directly to the township on an annual basis. The per run fee is a fee charged to the property owner within the service area for the cost of having the department answer a call. This fee will remain the same as last year. The 2020 standby fee for the following townships are: City of Bertha-$9,322.00 Woodside-$6,152.52, Bartlett-$2,796.60, Bertha-$7,271.16, Germania-$5,127.10, Moran-$1,817.79 and Stowe Prairie-$1,584.74.

***7. Committee Report***

*No Reports*

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

 ***A. LMCIT – rates on different deductibles***

Steve Peterson, insurance agent, provided the cities correspondence on the premium of different deductible. Current package premium at $250. Deductible is $13,984. If we change to a $500 deductible the cost is $13,472 and $1,000 deductible would be $13,123. His opinion there is not much of a savings to increase the deductible.

 ***B. Expert T Billing –*** Bill Schommer, Expert T Billing owner, provided the council with some updates on the ambulance billing industry.

 ***C. Board of Appeals and Equalization –*** Todd County Assessor’s Office has scheduled the meeting for April 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bertha Community Center.

***9. Adjournment***

There was no further business to come before the City Council. Member D. Nelson moved; Member Bowman seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members present in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. Carried.