

**CITY OF BERTHA**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA**  
**HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019**

**Member present:** Mayor K. Nelson, Members Olson, D. Nelson, Bowman and Captain

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

**Guest Present:** Brenda Roberts, Karen Winkler, Amy Botzet, Pete Wallner, Marv Stokes, Russ Vandenheuevel

***Declaring a quorum, Mayor K. Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:31 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.***

Brenda Roberts, 307 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE, asked how tall grass has to be before the city steps in and mows it. She was informed that once it is 12 inches the city hires someone to mow it and then it is accessed to the property.

Karen Winkler, 200 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, shared she tried to get on the agenda this month and was informed that it was too late. The city clerk stated that the council gets the packets usually the Thursday prior to the meeting.

**4. *Communications Reports***

- A.** Review the enterprise reports for June – no questions
- B.** Fire/Ambulance Reports – Fire Chief Wallner had no business to discuss except that there are ready for Bear Country Days. Motion was made by D. Nelson, and seconded by Member Captain to approve the resignation of David Hershberger and addition of Dominic Shesta to the department roster effective July 1st. Carried. He stated that they received \$2,000.00 from the state for training purpose. Russ gave the monthly ambulance report informing the council that he has 5 crews.
- C. *Law Enforcement*** - Mr. Berndt provided his June activity report for the council to review but they had no comments. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 15-citizen calls, 4-citations, 2-public assists, 3-assist other agencies and 2-vehicle unlocks. Clerk Umland will provide a list of residents to Mr. Berndt that hasn't purchased their 2019 dog license.
- D.** Public Works Report-Mr. Templin supplied the council with his June activity report that summarizes the work done in his department during the month. The front end loader is in need of different tires. He has received estimates from two companies. O.K. Tire from Motley gave him a quote for \$10,100 to have them installed. The other quote was for recap tires for \$7,500.00 installed. The 2019 budget includes \$7,000.00 for purchasing different tires coming out of different funds. Motion moved by Member Bowman, seconded by Olson to purchase and install four new recap tires from Royal Tire for the loader. Carried. The subject of the Birch Pettow semi-tractor still parked on city property was addressed. Mr. Pettow has agreed to have it removed by this week-end. Discussed regulation of semis and trailer parking in the residential area. The council will be provided with a copy of the City Code for parking.

**E. Clerk's Overview – for review only**

**5. Consider Business Items**

**A.** Police Service Agreement – The Bertha-Hewitt School has committed to continue the service of police liaison until the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Currently, the school receives 12 hours of police service a week and is billed \$700.00 per month. Our police service agreement comes due the end of 2019 which is a 5 year agreement with the City of Eagle Bend.

**B.** Nuisance re-inspection – sometime next week the committee and Mr. Berndt will do a follow-up inspection to see if the residents have come in compliance.

**C.** Revolving Loan Fund – The Minnesota Legislature has authorized a onetime exception to how revolving loan fund dollars seeded from the state funded MIF projects are used. These dollars have been retained by local units of government from repayments of their MIF grants. The funds are designated to be re-used for economic development for manufacturing projects within their jurisdiction. The onetime exception would allow the city that has uncommitted money in their revolving loan fund to use 80% for general purpose aid for any lawful expenditure. In order to be eligible for the exception, the city would need to return 20% of the uncommitted balance to the State's general fund. The council consensus was to retain the funds and hopefully be able to loan it to a business that is eligible.

**6. Consider the 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, and corrections to be made to the Consent Agenda. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Member Bowman to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. The consent agenda included the following items;

- A.** Approval of the June 10, 2019 Regular Council Minutes
- B.** Approval of the June Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments
- C.** Review Bank Correspondence –Bank Statement & Investment Report
- D.** Consider donation to Initiative Foundation- The foundation submitted literature indicating what the foundation's mission is and all the activities they are involved with. Also, included were recent grants and scholarships awarded by their foundation along with recent business financing investments made by them. They formally ask the Council to support and approve their mission to invest in central Minnesota by making a donation of \$410.00 in 2020. The foundation provides community and economic development through training, grants, and loans. Every donated dollar is matched by the McKnight Foundation, thereby doubling the reach and capacity of committed resources.
- E.** Discuss Street Closing for Bear Country Days – Discussion was held concerning closing off 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NW between the museum and Seip Drug on July 13<sup>th</sup> for kid's activities a discussion was held at the June meeting.
- F.** Jason Murray, (David Drown Associates, Inc.) completed the City's 2018 TIF report and submitted it to the State Auditor's Office. The council was provided with a summary of the report.

- G. Approve Resolution 2019-21 authorizing the write-off of uncollectible ambulance bills for collection to Minnesota Recapture Recovery program and direct the city clerk to remove the account from active receivables of the City of Bertha, said account being detailed in the officials' files of the City. Expert T Billing has determined the account shown on the resolution is uncollectible.
- H. Resolution 2019-19 allowing Bertha-Hewitt School to harbor farm animals. Bertha City Code states any person can harbor farm animal within the city limits with council approving a resolution. Staff will supervise the students working with animals at all times. The school emphasizes this project would help fostering the child's intellectual, social, physical and emotional growth therapy.

## **7. Committee Report-None**

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

A. Hilltop Regional Kitchen - the Board of Directors are asking the city to support their kitchen again in 2020. They are asking each city to assist in the amount equal to \$1.00 per resident, which is \$472.00 for Bertha. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Olson to approve the request from Hilltop Regional Kitchen for \$472.00. Carried.

### **B. MN Department of Health- Service Connection Fee Increase**

A letter from the state was received informing the council that the drinking water service connection fee will increase from \$6.36 to \$9.72 effective January 1, 2020. The March 2020 billing will reflect the change in fee.

Two other issues were addressed prior to adjournment-

- A. Discuss Street Closing for National Night Out- Motion by Bowman, seconded by Member Olson approving closing 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. from Hwy 24 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW. Unanimously approved.
- B. Mr. Templin informed the council that Bob Larson has contacted him about extending the sewer to his property. Mr. Templin was getting input from the council if the city would share the cost for installation. Mr. Templin will get some estimates on cost for extending the sewer line to his residence.

## **9. Adjournment**

There was no further business to come before the City Council. Member Olson moved; Member Bowman seconded the motion to adjourn. With all members in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.