

**CITY OF BERTHA
TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA
HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER
Monday, March 12, 2018**

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

Absent: Member Captain

Staff: Clerk Umland, Adam Templin and Bobby Berndt

Guest: Trinity Gruenberg, Pete Wallner, Scott Powers, Aaron Botzet, Mark Fay, Amy Ashbaugh, Roger Schahn, Brenda Roberts and Russ Vandenheuvel.

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. Public Comment:

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.

Amy Ashbaugh and Scott Powers, representing the Bertha-Hewitt Sportbooster, questioned the council on providing a sand volleyball court. The reason the school is not interested because of the no use of alcohol on their property. Mr. Fay would like to have it on his property to be able to control the use of alcohol. The council did not commit to this project and felt it should be placed on school property.

Mark Fay, Traditions Bar & Grill, informed the council on some of the events that will take place during Bertha Bear Days. Again this year, the two groups will share the costs of the bands and car show. Sports Booster events will be starting this spring. Mr. Fay will close his kitchen for the Sport Boosters events so the organization can raise funds for special events. He is currently working to get online gambling.

4. Communications Reports

A. Enterprise Reports for February were reviewed – no questions

B. **Fire/Ambulance Reports** - Mr. Wallner reminded the council about the Ham Bingo that will be held this Saturday Night at the Bertha Community Center. The Todd/Wadena County Fire Department meeting will be held on April 25th at the Bertha Community Center. Mr. Wallner informed the council that the fuse on the fire siren had blown again. No one knows the reason why it blows fuses. It was suggested to contact MN Power & Light to see if they could check it out. Ambulance report was put on hold until Mr. Vandenheuvel returned from an emergency call. Mr. Vandenheuvel informed the council the department will hold a Pancake fundraisers on the 15th day of July with proceeds going to purchase clothing and for continuing education. Mr. Vandenheuvel presented the council with a quarterly report showing % of Hospital location and % of responding to location.

C. **Law Enforcement** – Mr. Berndt provided his February activity report. The monthly report showed the following violations for Bertha: 13-citizen calls, 7-citations, 3-warnings, 2 arrests, 6-public assists, 4-assist other agencies and 2-vehicle unlocks. The council agreed a notice should be sent out in the fall notifying the residents on regulations on parking and snow removal .

D. Public Works Report – Mr. Templin supplied the council with his February report to review and give comments. Mr. Wallner questioned the council about if they had a snow removal policy. Mr. Wallner voiced his opinion on how the city crew does snow removal. Mark Fay also commented the condition of the alley after the storm. He suggested he would like to close the alley in back of his business. Mayor Nelson will work with Mr. Templin and see how the crew can make improvements to their snow removal procedures.

E. Clerk's Overview – review only

5. Consider Business Items

A. Nuisance Property Update- The city was granted to proceed with the abatement and remove the hazards. Sentence-to-Serve has been contacted to put the City of Bertha on their schedule to remove the nuisance from the Judd Hoff premise. Clerk Umland is waiting for an estimate from Korblich Excavating Service to have the abandon house demolished.

B. Street Repairs – A proposal was provided by Tri-City Paving for repairs to Meadow/2nd Street NW, alley adjacent to Pete's Lumber and 1st Ave NW. The total cost to repair the above streets was \$42,000.00. Mr. Templin was asked to bring a quote for sealcoating the streets to the next meeting.

C. Dukowitz's Hope Addition Lot – was tabled until next month.

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, corrections, or deletions to be made to the Consent Agenda. Motion by Bowman, seconded by Member D. Olson to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. The consent agenda included the following items;

- A. Approval of the February 12, 2018 Regular Council Minutes
- B. Approval of the February Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments
- C. Review Bank Correspondence – Bank statement & Investing Report
- D. Approve Resolution 2018-06 Appointing Election Judges for 2018 Primary and General Election – Resolution 2018-06 contains a list of individuals who have applied to serve as election judges in different capacities. Election judges must attend training every two-year period prior to Election Day. Todd County Auditor will hold election training sessions in June.
- E. Approved Resolution 218-11 authorizing the write-off of uncollectible ambulance bills for collection by MN Recapture Agency /Collection Bureau and direct the city clerk to remove the accounts from active receivable of the City, said accounts being detailed in the official files of the City. The Expert T Billing has determined that certain accounts, shown on the resolution are uncollectible.
- F. Resolution 2018-12 Accepting a Donation for the Bertha Fire Department (on file)
A cash donation of \$400.00 submitted to the Bertha Fire Department by Kirby Electric towards the purchase of unbudgeted items.

7. Committee Reports – None

8. Correspondence/Meetings/Conferences

A. 2017 Voting Equipment Grant Announcement- In a follow-up to the Voting Equipment meeting in fall 2017. The county has informed the city that Todd County was awarded monies from the 2017 Voting Equipment Grant opportunity put forth by the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. The Bertha precinct was awarded \$1,775.00 to help defray the cost of a DS200 tabulator. Some of the monies are designated to purchase next year Express Vote and the following year to purchase Electronic Poll books countrywide. The Todd County Auditor has suggested to budget \$1,550.00 for our share of the tabulator and for 2019 \$1,750.00 for the Express Vote(replacement of the AutoMark).

B. 2017 Financial & Investment Annual Report (FIRE 17)

Each member was given a copy of this report to review. The clerk was authorized to sign the report prior to sending it to the state. The Relief Association is the administer of a single-employer defined benefit pension plan available to firefighters, which operate under the provisions of MN. State Statute. It is governed by a board elected by members of the association. Benefits are payable in a lump sum based on years of service, with the current benefit level of \$1,300.00 per year of service.

C. MPCA Announcement of 2017 Wastewater Treatment Facility Operational Award-

MPCA reviews annually all eligible wastewater permittees for compliance over the period from October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. The City of Bertha was again a recipient of this award. This award recognizes permittees for ensuring:

- The facility was overseen by a properly certified operator

- The facility did not exceed the effluent limits contained in the permit.

- The required monthly and annual reports were timely and complete.

- The facility did not experience any unauthorized releases, enforcement actions or inspections identifying significant compliance concerns.

D. Blandin Foundation –is seeking four new Blandin Broadband Communities for 2018-20 cohort. This is an intensive two-year partnership to define a community's technology goals, measure current levels of broadband access and use, and seek technical assistance and resources to meet goals. This is a matching grant up to \$75,000.00.

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 in favor, motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Carried.

