

CITY OF BERTHA  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF BERTHA  
HELD AT THE BERTHA COMMUNITY CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

**Members Present:** Mayor K. Nelson, Members Olson, Bowman, Captain & D. Nelson  
**Staff Present:** Clerk Umland & Public Works Templin  
**Guest Present:** Pete Wallner, Russ Vandenheuvel, Trinity Gruenberg 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:***

***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 present had concerns.***

**4. *Communications Reports:***

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

***B. Public Safety Reports*** – Fire Department- Mr. Wallner informed the council that the turnout gear washer/extractor/dryer was ordered and should arrive within the next two weeks.

Ambulance Department- Russ stated one new person is taking the EMT class in Wadena. One couple has moved out of town due to loss of their house. The wife has a day job and could take runs. The council felt that Mark and Rachel Yates should be grandfathered into the fire and/or ambulance departments since they been reliable volunteers with the city. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter statistics report was provided in the council packet for review.

***C. Law Enforcement*** – Todd County Sheriff Department provided an August activity report which summarizes the calls received in their department during the month of August: 1-accident property damage, 2-disturbance, 1-gas drive-off, 1-harassment, 8-ordinance violation, 1-public assist, 1-pursuit, 3-suspicious activity, 1-terroristic threat, 1-theft, 2-traffic stops and 14 misc. calls.

***D. Public Works Report*** – Mr. Templin provided the council with his August activity report which summarizes work done within his department. His activity report included: working with J & J on the repairs to the sewer line on County Rd 24 and might have to postpone work until 2021. Johnson Jet Line only found 1 spot where the reline was leaking. He suggested we start the process for filling the position of part-time public works maintenance position. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Member Bowman to advertise for the part-time maintenance worker position for two weeks in the local newspaper. Carried. Member D. Nelson stated that crosswalks and curbs should still be painted this fall. They asked Mr. Wallner to order the special paint for the streets. Karen Winkler inquired why the alley adjacent to her property was not crack sealed.

***E. Clerk's Review*** – is an overview of the agenda only for the council.

**5. *Consider Business Items***

***A. Sanitary Sewer Main in front of Salon Renew*** – The council agreed to accept the property damage release from Wagner Construction for \$21,000.00 to repair the sewer line in front of the Salon Renew. Mayor Nelson will contact the city attorney and sign the agreement. This project might have to wait until 2021 if J & J can't get the work done earlier than the end of October.

**B. DEED grant for housing** - The grant writer met with Tara & me on August 19<sup>th</sup> and went over the initial program parameters pertaining to proposed rehabilitation activities, target areas and funding parameters.

**C. Lion's Building Storage Agreement** – A lengthy discussion on the rental price and how to charge unit vs footage. Motion by D. Nelson, seconded by Member Bowman to charge \$75.00 for any lawn mowers/motorcycle, \$130.00 for cars, boat or camper under 24 feet, \$180.00 for boats or campers over 24 feet. Carried.

**D. Walking bridge over Bear Creek** – construction of the bridge over Bear Creek will be delayed until spring due to the contractor schedule. The council gave Mr. Wallner the permission to order the beams and upon arrival they will be stored in the Lion's Building.

**E. CARES ACT Dollars to Cities** – The city was hoping to get grant dollars from area cities and township to purchase items for the ambulance and fire departments. A new guidance came out the first of September that supersedes the old guidance. The new guidance provides that governments cannot transfer their funds to other government entities-this includes school districts, cities, and joint power entities. The city is in the process of purchasing three items that will be bought with CARES Act Funds along with donations received from other sources.

***F. 2020 Preliminary Levy Adoption – Resolution 2020-26***

Councilmember Bowman introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

***A Resolution Adopting the Preliminary 2021 Budget and Proposed 2020 Tax Levy for Taxes Collectible in 2021.***

***Be it Resolved,*** by the City Council of the City of Bertha, County of Todd, Minnesota that the following sum of money is levied for the current year, collectible in 2021, upon the taxable property in the City of Bertha, for the following purposes;

General Levy	\$ 83,000.00
Fire Levy	\$ 9,500.00
Street Levy	\$ 40,000.00
Ambulance Levy	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>
<b>Total Levy</b>	<b>\$134,000.00</b>

The City Clerk is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the County Auditor of Todd County, Minnesota.

**Adopted and passed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020. Member D. Nelson seconded the foregoing motion and passed unanimously. A complete copy of this resolution is filed in the City of Bertha minute book.**

**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 D. Nelson, seconded by Member Olson to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. The consent agenda included the following items:

- A. Approval of the August 10, 2020 Regular Council Minutes
- B. Approval of the August Disbursements & Authorize Issuance in accordance with the list provided including all electronic payments – along with Check Nos. 18055-18080 and 2020-65-67 dated in September.
- C. Review Bank Correspondence – Bank Statement & Investment Report
- D. Approval of Resolution 2020-28 authorizing applying for and, if awarded, a \$5,000.00 COVID-19 Relief Partnership Emergency Funding from Sourcewell for operating supplies & clothing for the ambulance service.
- E. Approval of Resolution 2020-29 approving 2020 CARES Act Grant for elections County/Municipality Agreement. The county has received funds to make the election process safe, sanitary and effective. The City of Bertha has purchased booths and will be reimbursed \$492.35 by County Care funds and the city share was \$123.09.
- F. Approval of Resolution 2020-31 accepting CARE Act Funds allocating \$36,615.00 to the City of Bertha. This resolution authorizes the City Clerk to execute the grant agreement between Todd County and the City of Bertha.
- G. Approved the following building permit:
  - 1. Bertha-Hewitt School- 310 Central Ave S; weight room addition
- H. Resolution 2020-30 accepting donations from Arvig Enterprises for \$1,500.00 and the Eagle Bend Lion's Club for \$1,000.00 to help purchase ambulance equipment
- I. Resolution 2020-32 accepting a donation from Todd County Corn & Soybean Growers for \$250.00 for fire department equipment
- J. 2021 Agreement between Todd County and the City of Bertha for Prosecution Services- The City of Bertha agrees to compensate Todd County at a rate of \$900 for the year 2021.
- K. Resolution 2020-33 removal of delinquent ambulance service bills: Invoices 304, 300, 173, 364 and 307 from the active receivables of the Bertha Ambulance Service and be written off as uncollectible and be terminated by Expert T Billing. The above invoices will be turned over to the collection bureau.

#### **7. Committee Reports – None**

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

**A. Tri-County Hospital** - this fall the Tri-County Healthcare will start again on their conduit financing for the construction of their new hospital.

**B. Expert T Billing** – Received correspondence that the current owner of Expert T Billing has sold his business. He has sold his business to Brian Brosdahl and he will continue to serve his clients at the same level.

#### **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 7:50 p.m. Carried.

