

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
December 9, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

Council members present: Sander, Engelmann, Seidl, Schneider

The Budget/Levy Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Sander.

The 2020 proposed Budget is \$1,787,214 (includes utilities), with a total Levy of \$571,156; a 5.5% increase from 2019. The increase is mainly due to the increased debt from the 2018/2019 Street & Utility Improvement project, and in increase in Streets – Capital Outlay for street maintenance purposes. As there were no questions or comments from the Public, the hearing was closed.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.

A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting and assessment hearing. Passed unanimously.

Resolution 9-19 A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to approve Resolution 9-19, adopting the \$1,787,214 2020 Budget and \$571,156 2020 Final Levy. Passed unanimously.

Tax-Forfeited Property Bill Leach was present stating his interest in purchasing the tax-forfeited property at 531 South 5th Street. He is requesting that the City forgive the delinquent sewer assessment (\$2682) and delinquent utility bill (\$275.76) owed on the property. If purchased, he plans to tear down the building, making his lot bigger. A motion was made by Sander and seconded by Engelmann to forgive the \$275.76 utility bill, but to request that the \$2682 be paid to the City upon sale of the property. Passed unanimously.

2020 Seal Coat/
BMI Invoice The Council discussed the 2020 seal coat project and whether or not an engineer is needed to design, bid and oversee the project. It may be possible to receive bids based on the amount of linear footage of street work needed. City staff will draw up plans to present to the Council. In regards to the \$6405 Bolton & Menk, Inc. invoice for unauthorized work, it was felt that the maps were updated; therefore, the invoice should be paid. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to pay the invoice, enclosing a letter that any further unauthorized work will not be approved for payment. Passed unanimously.

860 Highway Demolition Only one bid was received for demolition of the building at 860 Highway Avenue. The Council felt that the City should get at least two bids on the project; therefore, Haney Construction will be contacted to see if they may be interested. As power is still on at the building, Xcel Energy will need to be contacted as to the process to shut off the power. If need be, the City Attorney will be consulted. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to table the process pending receipt of another bid and resolution of the power issue. Passed unanimously.

Truck Parking/
Snow Emergencies The Council reviewed the City of Olivia's parking Regulations which makes it "unlawful for any person to park a truck on or within the limits of any city street, alley or right-of-way", with some exceptions. The Olivia Police Chief will be consulted regarding possible issues with enforcement. Staff will draft an Ordinance which makes it unlawful to park trucks on streets in the City's Residential District. The Council also discussed the problem with vehicles remaining on City streets when staff is plowing snow. The current

City Snow Emergency Ordinance allows residents to move their vehicles from east/west streets to north/south streets, as staff plows north/south streets first. In order to enforce the Ordinance, staff must declare a snow emergency via KOLV radio. It was suggested to simplify the Ordinance by making it unlawful to park on any street from November 1st to April 1st from 1 AM until the street is plowed. Staff will work on drafting a new “winter parking” ordinance for the Council’s consideration. It was also suggested that the Council look at increasing ordinance violation fees.

Sale of Land

An offer was made to purchase the 4-acre “old dump site” land from the City. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to accept the bid, and have the City Attorney draft the necessary documents to sell the property. Passed unanimously.

MRU Retirement

Dawn Soukup is retiring from the MRU after 20 years of service. With thanks and appreciation, a motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Schneider to accept the retirement of Dawn Soukup from the City’s medical Response Unit. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Deb Lingl, City Administrator