

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
January 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM**

Council members present: Sander, Wolff, Engelmann, Seidl, Prokosch

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.

Following questions/answers regarding some of the claims a motion was made by Wolff and seconded by Engelmann to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Passed unanimously. There was some discussion on the possibility of amending the current Tree Stump Removal Policy to include the City taking responsibility for stumps when the City requires tree removal due to traffic vision issues. The topic will be placed on a future agenda.

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| 2018/2019 Street & Utility Improvements | Regarding the upcoming street/utility improvement project, recommendations have been made by the City's Engineer regarding street widths, curb & gutter design width and water service curb stop locations. The Council also discussed the logic for the blocks on Ash Avenue being constructed as a 9-ton road; which is related to the street being used for detour situations and being located in the business district. Following initial discussion of a motion by Engelmann and seconded by Wolff to accept all of the Engineer's recommendations, the motion failed with no votes. The Council had concerns with three blocks on 6 th , Cherry & 5 th being 4-7 feet narrower than the remainder of the blocks, causing a problem for snow plowing, and being aesthetically unpleasing. A motion was then made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve all the recommendations, except narrowing the three blocks on 6 th , Cherry and 5 th , which will stay the same existing width. Passed unanimously. |
| Burn Site | The Council discussed the recent issue with the burn site materials being lit on fire on Sunday night, December 17 th , causing smoke to infiltrate the town. Since then, the burn site has been closed for the winter. Other than winter, certain hours have been established for the site to be open (Wed. 3-7; Fri. 3-7; Sat. 8-5) and the site should remain locked the rest of the time. When the City had its own Police Department, the officer on duty would lock the site. A Sheriff's Department Deputy will be asked to lock the site. The skating rink warming house also needs to be locked at night. This will also be discussed with the Sheriff's Department. |
| I & I Update | Smoke testing is scheduled to be completed near 9 th Street and Grove Avenue. |
| Amend Resolution 7-17 | A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to amend the City's Assessment Policy (Resolution 7-17) to allow for special assessments to only "new" street construction, not for reconstructed roads. Passed unanimously. |
| MnDOT Speed Study | Regarding the City request for MnDOT to perform a speed study on the west end of town, information on the process was received from John Hager, District 8 Traffic Engineer. Speed limits are set according to Minnesota law. If a speed study is undertaken by MnDOT, the speed posted would be determined by the value indicating the speed at which most (85%) unimpeded drivers are travelling. This could mean a speed limit increase, not decrease. The Resolution to request a speed study was not rescinded at this time; however, MnDOT will be asked to post "Noise Ordinance Enforced" (or similar) signs on both ends of town, as this appears to be a bigger concern than speeding. |

- Order to Abate Nuisance** Since the property owner at 1060 Hwy. Avenue has not complied with the request to abate nuisances (Ordinance 217), a motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Engelmann to order abatement of the nuisances (more than five “vehicles” stored outside). Passed unanimously. City staff will also follow-up with the City’s Building Inspector regarding possible hazardous buildings in town.
- Resolution 1-18** A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to adopt Resolution 1-18, recognizing January 21-27, 2018 as School Choice Week. Passed unanimously.
- Mayor Appointments** A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to approve the 2018 Mayor Appointments, the same as 2017, with the following amendments: Streets & Alleys, At large – Kevin Sing; Tree Inspector, At large – Chris Fischer or representative of CMF Tree Service; Delete Neal Prokosch from Streets & Alleys Committee. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.
Deb Lingl, City Administrator