

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
March 13, 2017 at 7:00 PM

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

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.

A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes of the last regular and special meetings. Passed unanimously.

Open Forum Deputy Luke Jacques was present to introduce himself and to inform the Council that he and Deputy Tom Swyter are now the officers who will be splitting duties in Bird Island.

Public Works Issues Discussion continued regarding the flooding problem at 4th Street and Highway 212. Research has continued regarding possible changes made to the storm sewer system during the 2006-2008 sewer separation project. Some water north of Hwy. 212, that is entering the City's system, should be re-directed to the State's storm sewer system. Also, storm water is no longer free-flowing from the outlet pond and utilization of the new pump will help with back up of storm water. The Engineer is requesting data from staff to proceed with the MnDOT permit application to modify one catch basin and install another catch basin on Hwy. 212. The data will also be used to draw up specifications for contractors to bid on the project. It was also stated that the elevation at the Paur building is the lowest in town and that there should be more fill at the south of the building. A cooperative effort will be needed to adequately address this problem.

The Street Committee met and is recommending the City proceed with all the #3's on the Capital Improvement map which involve utility work needed underneath the streets to be reconstructed. A formal plan will be forthcoming from the Committee.

Regarding possible inflow of storm water into the sanitary sewer system, staff will proceed with the smoke testing process. Citizens will be educated with the process via handouts, Facebook and the City's cable channel.

Research continues on the possible purchase of adequate mosquito spraying equipment. Estimates will be solicited for remote control equipment that can be carried on the back of a City pickup/truck.

County Mutual Aid Agreement City Fire Chiefs have been working with the Sheriff's Department to formulate a Mutual Aid Agreement that can be used by all Cities in the County. Attorney Aaron Walton has reviewed and approved the Agreement presented to the Council. A motion was made by Wolff and seconded by Prokosch to adopt Resolution 1-17, approving the 2017 Renville County Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreement. Passed unanimously.

Fireworks Location The Renville County Ag Society is requesting permission for Hollywood Pyrotechnics to display their fireworks, during the Fair, on City property near the southwest corner of the MnDOT storm water pond. A certificate of insurance will be required listing the City as an additional insured, and stating the legal description of the location. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve the request, making the Ag Society responsible for contacting the party who is baling hay on the property. Passed unanimously.

- Other Business While waiting for the Auditor to arrive, brief discussions were held on the following topics:
- Soliciting RFP's from Engineering Firms
 - Splash Pad project grants and draft survey
 - BOLD School Steering Committee
 - Main Street banner project

2016 Audited
Financial Report Sara Beavers, Auditor with Dennis E. Oberloh, was present to review the 2016 audited financial report. No legal compliance issues were found and the usual two internal control findings (regarding limited staff) were cited. Management and Auditor responsibilities were identified, and no material misrepresentations were noted. Declining fund balances for utility accounts were discussed, along with the possibility of permanent transfers between the funds. There was discussion on the City's debt and the higher interest rate of the USDA loan. The Council discussed the possibility of using unassigned General Funds to pay off the loan and sell the building to The Learning Funhouse on a contract for deed. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve the audited financial report as presented. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.
Deb Lingl, City Administrator