

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
June 12, 2017 at 7:00 PM**

At 6:30 PM, Council members toured the Public Library and met new Head Librarian Jake Fejedelem, and congratulated Sherry Mace, Librarian, on her retirement. Sherry and Jake discussed past and future services planned for the Library.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.

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

A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Wolff to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting and land use permit for Jim Jacobs (garage). Passed unanimously.

- 212 & 4th Street Drainage Discussion continued regarding the flooding problem at 4th Street and Highway 212. MnDOT has approved a drainage permit for either of the options that were previously discussed, but will only issue one permit for whichever project is chosen. Therefore, requests for lump sum bids on both options were sent to four contractors, to be received by July 6th. Following investigation by Wolff, after a May rainfall event, it was felt that the addition of a curb box on the existing 212 catch basin may not be necessary, and two additional catch basins on the Ash & 4th Street intersection, should be considered. An addendum letter will be sent to the four contractors asking for alternative bids that would eliminate the curb box on 212 and add two catch basins on Ash/4th.
- Island Market Sidewalk Discussion continued regarding the need to repair/improve the sidewalk west of Island Market. The sidewalk proposal submitted by Randy Vogt covered around 530 square feet and did not cover the full width of the sidewalk from building to curb. It was suggested to rebid the project with full replacement from building to curb. Since the project will likely exceed \$5000, two bids will be necessary. Randy Vogt will be asked to rebid, along with another concrete contractor. It was also suggested to request that Island Market cost share in the project.
- There are also other sidewalks in town that are in need of repair/replacement. The Council was given a map of all City-maintained sidewalks (Resolution 174). It was suggested that a sidewalk inspection be completed, and a plan for repair/replacement be drafted, to help in budgeting for future projects.
- Storm Water Woelfel submitted a continuous plan for researching possible areas for storm water infiltration. The City's engineer will be consulted regarding the problem area between Cherry & Birch and 5th & 6th Streets. It was felt that there are sump pumps still draining into the sanitary sewer system which are contributing to the problem.
- Street/Utility Project Woelfel submitted a plan for future street/utility improvements. It was suggested to solicit bids for crack filling the "new" streets and for repairing/replacing "bad" hydrants. Regarding improvements, it was felt that any utility work and street patching should be completed in one year (2018-2019) and seal coating and street reconstruction, the following year (2019-2020). It was suggested to hire Bolton & Menk, Inc. for this project, provided they can adequately explain the overages in engineering fees on the 13th Street project, and will agree to "not-to-exceed" engineering fees moving forward. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to authorize that Bolton & Menk

complete a preliminary engineer's report (PER) on the recommended improvements. Passed unanimously. A petition was received to pave 1st Street between Ash & Birch Avenues, signed by 50% of adjacent property owners. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to accept the petition and authorize completion of a PER. Passed unanimously.

- Woelfel Citation** Woelfel expressed his frustration for being issued a citation, in violation of Ordinance 200, for keeping abandoned, inoperable or unlicensed vehicles on private property. He is apparently installing an engine on an unlicensed vehicle, as a hobby, and would like to continue working on unlicensed vehicles, without the worry of being fined. Until if/when there is an amendment to the Ordinance, citations will continue to be issued for properties that keep abandoned, inoperable or unlicensed vehicles, in the open, on private property.
- Lot Purchase** In 2016, Bob van der Hagen offered to purchase the lot between his property and Lowell Lauer for \$6500. At that time, no decision was made to change the current policy which states that a building valued for at least \$75,000 must be constructed within a year and the lots would sell for the cost of assessments (\$10,290 for this lot). Following much discussion, a motion was made by Wolff and seconded by Engelmann to deviate from the current policy in Zimmerman's 1st Addition provided the lot has been vacant for at least 10 years and is located between two already developed properties. In which case, both adjacent property owners can bid on the purchase of the vacant lot to be sold at no less than the assessments levied against the property. Construction of a building on the lot would not be required. Passed unanimously. Letters to that effect will be sent to van der Hagen and Lauer.
- Law Enforcement** The Law Enforcement Services Agreement with Renville County for years 2018-2020 was discussed. The contract language is identical to the previous contract, with the exception of the hourly rates. There is no increase for 2018, with a 2.5% increase for years 2019 and 2020. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Seidl to approve the Agreement as presented. Passed unanimously.
- Liquor License** A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve the following liquor licenses, contingent upon license fees being current and proof of liquor liability insurance:
- Renville Legion – 3 Day Beer (County Fair)
 - Tricia's Pelican Pub – On & Off Sale & Sunday Liquor (annual)
 - Rumors – On & Off Sale Liquor (annual)
 - Island Market Bottle Shoppe – Off Sale Liquor (annual)
 - Athmann's Inn – On Sale Beer & Wine, Off Sale Beer (annual)
 - Island Ballroom – On Sale Beer & Wine (annual)
 - BOLD Baseball Association – On Sale Beer (annual)
- Passed unanimously.
- Splash Pad Survey Results** The Council reviewed the results of the splash pad survey. There were 93 surveys returned out of 547 that were mailed (return of 17%). 42 were in favor; 49 against; with 1 maybe. There were varied opinions from the Council; however, most agreed that street improvements should be a priority and amenities (including housing) for our

seniors also need to be considered. The issue will be brought back to the City's EDA Board for comments.

EDA Board Member Upon recommendation from the EDA, Mayor Sander appointed Paul Heyl to replace Derek Stovern on the EDA Board. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve the appointment. Passed unanimously.

Island Days A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Wolff to approve the temporary closing of Dogwood Ave., from the alley to Main Street, for a closing Island Days Block Party on June 18th from 4-7 PM. Passed unanimously.

**Creative MN
Economic Profiles** Mariah Martinez, Director of the Bird Island Cultural Centre, was present to report on the Rural Arts & Cultural Summit she recently attended, and to discuss the economic importance of artists and arts & culture organizations. The Cultural Centre would like to participate in an economic impact study for arts in Renville County, which is being offered for \$1500. Mariah is requesting that the City help with the funding and provide a support letter. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve submittal of a statement of support for the study. Passed unanimously. Any funding support should come from the EDA.

Meeting adjourned.

Deb Lingl, City Administrator