

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
July 11, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Council members present: Erickson, Sander, Engelmann, Wolff

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Erickson.

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, with an addition to the "Sidewalk Tree" section, stating authorization for staff to trim the tree in front of Tricia's Pelican Pub. Passed unanimously. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Wolff to approve the land use permits for Jason Renneke (shed and deck) and Robert Fliflet (garage), provided the Fliflet measurements are clarified; and to allow Fliflets permission to remove the probable boulevard tree to install a driveway, knowing that any damage to the street, caused by the tree removal would be repaired at their expense. Passed unanimously.

- Open Forum Woelfel requested that Dustin Lynch be placed on permanent full-time employment status effective 7-1-16 as his one year probationary period is complete. The probationary period for Maintenance employees is only six months and the Council had previously approved Lynch's permanent full-time status effective 1-1-16.
- Law Enforcement Deputy Dennis Fiebelkorn was present to review the second quarter contract hours and activities; and to answer any questions regarding law enforcement issues. The Judge ordered the abatement of nuisances at 860 Hwy. Avenue, giving the owner two weeks to comply. Two weeks have passed and it appears that most items were moved to the north of his building and the front of the house was painted. With consultation from the City Attorney, a notice will be personally served on the property owner stating that he did not comply with the order, and on a specified date, the City will enter the property to remove the nuisances. Nuisances present on commercial properties were also discussed, specifically the Palmer Bus and old Oak Grove properties. There are specific issues with unused or inoperable equipment/vehicles and tall grass/weeds that make the Highway Commercial corridor unattractive to residents and passersby. A general letter will be sent to all businesses requesting that owners keep their properties in good condition and remove or provide storage, for unused or inoperable equipment/vehicles. Fiebelkorn reported on noise complaints that may be brought to the Council or City Office.
- Park Improvements Since it is not recommended to attempt to retrofit the current swing set, the Park Committee is recommending a Phase I project of replacing the swing with a 12' HD Tripod Swing at a cost of \$2288. With the red climbing apparatus removed and the yellow monkey bars moved to a different area, the new swings would sit at an angle in that location, with a use space of 44' x 48'. A recommendation from the City's Loss Control Consultant will determine what surface material would be needed. A motion was made by Sander and seconded by Engelmann to approve the purchase of the swing set and compliant surface material, provided the cost stays within the \$8000 budget. Passed unanimously. The Lutheran Church youth group has volunteered to assist with clean up and projects at the Park. Recommendations were given as to what activities they could complete.
- 13th Street/
Other Street David Palm, Bolton & Menk, was present to update the Council on the 13th Street utilities. Part of the water main under Cherry Avenue and a 6" storm sewer line have yet

Improvements	<p>to be completed. Palm also stated that part of the water main under 13th Street was previously installed 1 foot 2 inches too high; therefore, the pipe was insulated. Woelfel is recommending an additional stub-out be installed south of the 4-Plex, and that City staff could complete the work themselves. The contract states that all utility work be completed by July 15th, allowing for at least 45 days before street work commences. Since staff will be repairing a water leak under Ash Avenue on Wednesday, this leaves little time to complete the extra work. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Sander to authorize purchase of materials for the additional stub-out, to be used for the extra stub-out, provided it is constructed before the July 15th deadline, or a written extension is signed by all parties. Passed unanimously. The Council also discussed the poor condition of some of the paved streets that were not seal coated in 2014. It was suggested that the garbage/recycling trucks are not helping the situation. Jon Mitchell, Executive Director of Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority, will be invited to the next Council meeting to discuss the truck issue. The Capital Improvement Project Map was reviewed and it was suggested that a major utility/street project be planned during the next year that the next seal coat project is scheduled. Before this winter, where needed, pavement edges will be cut and filled with gravel or millings.</p>
Pesticide Application	<p>The City still has no staff that has received a pesticide applicator license to apply restricted use chemicals for mosquito and weed control. Due to this fact, and a question as to the effectiveness of the City's mosquito sprayer, a motion was made by Wolff and seconded by Engelmann to hire the company Clarke, to spray the city two times at \$750 each, once immediately and another right before the County Fair begins in August. As for weed control, staff will use non-restricted use chemicals to kill weeds until licensure is obtained. It was stressed that staff needs to prioritize and make time to complete the licensure process.</p>
Hire Summer Help	<p>The Council discussed the possible need for spring/summer help to assist with mowing/painting etc., as the list of part-time employees are not always available when needed. If the City were to hire a scheduled spring/summer employee, the position would need to be advertised. Since the heavy mowing season is slowing down part-time employees will fill in for the remainder of this summer. Early next spring, the City will advertise for someone to work 3-4 days per week for 3-4 months in the spring/summer.</p>
Election Judges	<p>A motion was made by Sander and seconded by Erickson to approve the following persons, and a possible additional person if need be, as election judges for the Primary and General Elections: Deb Lingl, Dawn Soukup, Lisa Engelmann, and Carol Senkyr. Passed unanimously.</p>
Ball Park Building	<p>The BOLD Baseball Association is inquiring as to the possibility of constructing a building straight west of the main ball field on City property. The building would be used for additional viewing of ball games. The Council had no immediate objections but would need additional information on the building/purpose/location/insurance.</p>
Vacate Street	<p>There was a request for the City to vacate 1st Street south of Dogwood Avenue. The Council was not in favor at this time.</p>

Meeting adjourned.
 Deb Lingl, City Administrator