

**Minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Bird Island City Council
January 09, 2023 at 6:30 PM**

Council members present: Sander, Leach, Schneider, Engelmann, Prokosch

The public hearing was called to order by Mayor Sander at 6:30 PM to discuss the reassessment of special assessments to tax forfeited properties (28-00485-00 and 28-01050-00). The Council received a letter from Lisa and Robert Taylor objecting to the proposed reassessment. The Council also reviewed the law regarding reassessment of tax-forfeited land returned to private ownership. None of the new private owners of the properties were present at the hearing to discuss the reassessment with the Council. The public hearing was closed.

Mark Glesener came at 6:45 PM to give the council an overview of The Learning Funhouse finances over the past 4 years to help make the council aware of their financial situation.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander at 7:15 PM.

A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Schneider to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

Resolution 16-22 A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by Prokosch to approve 16-22, adopting reassessment of special assessments. Passed unanimously.

Vehicle Towing
During Snow Deputy Luke Jacques was present to discuss the towing of vehicles during a plowable snow event for the city. Law enforcement would like to be notified ahead of time on when we are going to be plowing the streets so they can have someone in town to make sure the cars are removed from the streets prior to the city plowing. The Sheriff's Office would like the City to have one contact person and it was suggested by Jacques that the contact person be Chief Deputy Jason Mathwig as is done in Morton and Franklin. It was brought to the attention of the Council that City Ordinance 221 Regulating Parking on City Streets, states that vehicles are not to be parked on City streets during a plowable snow event and does not require the City to call a snow emergency. To help remind residents to move vehicles when an event occurs the Council talked about options on how we can help remind residents to move their cars. Similar to other towns in the County, Bird Island could use CodeRED to inform the residents if a snow emergency has been declared. Sheriff Hable is in the process of setting up Dave with the credentials needed to be able to send out a CodeRED Alert. City Staff will try to use other forms of communication such as its Facebook page and message board.

Public Works Public Works employees have been very busy with fixing the snow equipment, plowing and hauling of snow. The railroad crossing on 10th street is a problem and was finally opened up on January 10th. The railroad arms on CSAH 5 were having problems getting stuck down for a long period of time and people were not able to use the 10th Street crossing to get around because of the snow. Woelfel also brought to the attention of the Council that they will attempt to fix Well 8 on Wednesday, January 11th since the City is currently down to one well.

THC Edibles The council revisited the adoption of Ordinance 224, regulating the sale of edible cannabinoid. Small municipalities are worried about people coming into town and selling from pop-up stands. A motion was made by Engelmann and seconded by

Schneider to approve the ordinance following the Attorney's review of the ordinance.
Passed unanimously.

2023 Mayor
Appointments

A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to approve the 2023 Mayor Appointments as presented with the following changes: Change the City employee for the EDA to Tracey Ahl and remove Deb Lingl, Sander on for the EDA and remove Schneider. Also, add Dustin Lynch as the City employee for the Parks and Recreation. Sander was not able to reach Todd Fritsche to keep him as an at-large member to the Pioneerland Library Board. However, if he did not want to do that, Schneider volunteered to take his spot. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.
Tracey Ahl, City Administrator