

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Council members present: Schneider, Lingl, Leach, Prokosch

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Mayor Prokosch.

A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes from the August special meeting and regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve a land use permit for Terry Hines (fence). Passed unanimously. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve a land use permit for Kory Gondringer (fence). Passed unanimously.

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| Open Forum | Nick Leach was present to ask about people hunting on the ponds. The public works supervisor has historically given permission to select individuals to hunt on the City's ponds that are outside city limits. This helps the City meet their testing limits of fecal and pH from the droppings of the geese and other rodents. Administrator will look into creating a waiver for hunters on City property outside the city limits. |
| Dangerous dog Hearing | Jaleenah Toren appealed to have her dog Georgia not be considered a potentially dangerous dog. The Council felt like it was in the City's best interest to not go against the Sheriff's Department recommendation. |
| Fire Department New Truck | Fire Chief John Thompson was present to ask the Council to approve the purchase of a 2018 International 7500 Fire Truck from CarCo Truck and Equipment for \$298,141.00. The Fire Department will be going to the townships to ask them to help put funds towards the truck. A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Leach to approve a commercial loan from Frandsen Bank for \$200,000 for 7 years with a rate no higher than 6.75% for the purchase of the Fire Truck and City Administrator Ahl and/or Mayor Sander are authorized to sign loan documents, \$35,000 will come from our COVID funds, the remaining down payment will come from the insurance proceeds, the public safety funds, and community foundations. Passed unanimously. |
| Fire Department New Hire | A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to approve the hiring of Trent Athman as a fire fighter. Passed unanimously. |
| Public Works | Woelfel reviewed his monthly report with the Council. The ponds are being prepared for a September discharge; storm pond controls are working good since the electrical line repair. The building at 750 Ash Avenue has been taken down. A portion of the south and east walls were left to secure the integrity of the sidewalk and alley. Schmidt construction has connected the splash pad to the new loop. They did not need to be temporarily hooked up to the old ball park line like originally thought. Temporary water services have been removed and connected to the new water main. Birch Ave will be put back to gravel in the coming days. The manhole structures for Ranchwood's portion of the project have yet to be delivered. They are expected soon. A neighborhood meeting will be held before the start of Ranchwood once a start date has been determined. |
| Schmidt Construction Pay Estimate No. 1 | A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach approve the Schmidt Construction Pay Estimate No. 1. Pass unanimously |
| Dooley's Petroleum | A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve a High Volume Commercial Contract for 1500 gallons at \$1.56/ gallon with no money down for propane out at the water treatment plant. Passed unanimously. |

Resolution 15-24 Discussion continued on the proposed 2025 Budget and Levy. The Proposed Budget is \$2,014,182 with a total levy of \$694,234; a 6.52% increase from 2024. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve Resolution 15-24 adopting the Proposed 2025 Budget and Levy and use the General Fund reserves to pay the 2024A interest and principal abatement bonds debt. Passed Unanimously

Resolution 16-24 Due to the new loan debt with PFA it was suggested that the City consider increasing its water system rates, specifically an increase of \$2.00 in the base rate to \$36/month. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to approve Resolution 16-24, increasing the water system base rate to \$36/month to begin January 1, 2025. Passed unanimously

Fire Relief Donation A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Leach to accept a donation of \$896 from the Bird Island Fire Relief Association to purchase tools. Passed unanimously.

Street Closure A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve the closure of Dogwood between 6th Street and Main Street on September 28th from 12 Noon to 10 PM for the Hispanic Heritage Festival. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Tracey Ahl, City Administrator