

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2021 7:00 pm

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room and via Zoom (teleconference) for their regular meeting on Monday 03/08/2021. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were Bob Anderson, Tony Hofer, Travis Holthaus, Alicen Strombeck, and Mark Vondra. Others present: Finance Officer-Joan Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Brian Gaalswyk-Heiman Fire, Fire Dept (Ed Meyer, Chad Addy, Doug Weber), Bridgewater Rural Fire (Ross Glanzer, Jim Hoffman), Amb (Jim Julson), and DGR Engineer-Trent Bruce.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No one living in Ward III came forward to be appointed to fill the open council position.

The minutes of last month's meetings were sent to the council for reading prior to the meeting. Motion by Vondra, second by Strombeck to approve the Feb 8th regular meeting & Feb 23rd special meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The February Financial statement was sent out to the council for reviewing prior to the meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Hofer, second by Anderson to approve the February Financial Statement. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The bills for the month of February were reviewed. A motion was made by Anderson, second by Vondra to approve the February bills. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Maintenance Report. 1) skidsteer leaks fixed 2) pot hole repairs as soon as weather warms back up 3) Jason Golder has a trailer (needs tires) they could use for hauling skidsteer for \$1000. After discussion, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Hofer to purchase the 7X18 trailer from Jason Golder for \$1000. All voted aye. Motion carried. 4) Jerico Shape has expressed his interest in returning to do the parttime summer maintenance again this year.

Ambulance: Jim Julson brought to the council a discussion he had with BJ Stiefvater on the ambulances area of coverage in McCook Co. Just for information at this time.

Fire: Bridgewater Rural Fire Board was here to extend the Contract for another year and approve the 2022 Budget. Motion by Anderson, second by Vondra to extend the contract with the Bridgewater Rural Fire District for another year. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Hofer, second by Anderson to approve the 2022 Fire Dept Budget with the Bridgewater Rural Fire District. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Fire Dept was here to present their information on a new tanker/tender firetruck. The present one, a 1987 Ford tanker, is having a lot of issues. The main issue being it doesn't go any faster than maybe 45 mph if it makes it at all, making the reliability & time factor a huge issue. It is over 20 years old and has definitely served its purpose but its time to upgrade. The one they are looking at is a 2022 International tanker with a 9 L Cummings engine. Brian Gaalswyk with Heiman Fire introduced himself to the council and gave information on the truck that they are looking at. They've been working on these specs for about 3 years, with the costs increasing every year anywhere from 3½% to 5%. This would hold 2000 gal of water versus the 1600 that the current one holds. It also has a drop tank carrier which will hold 2100 gal of water. This is especially helpful in the out-of-town fires. It is a fairly basic truck with what the fire dept needs to be NFPA compliant. They are using the bid specs from the Sourcewell Contract #:022818-RSB. After continued discussion to make sure the truck would meet the fire departments needs and the Bridgewater Rural Fire Board voicing that they have already also approved this purchase, a motion was made. Motion by Anderson, second by Hofer to purchase from Heiman Fire using the bid specs from the Sourcewell Contract #: 022818-RSB a 2022 International tender (tanker) for \$222,488.00. As per Agreement, cost to be split equally between the City and Bridgewater Rural Fire. All voted aye. Motion carried. It was noted that the time frame for total completion of the truck would be around 425 days. The chassis, which cost \$86,300, would be complete and at the plant in Lyons, SD in a few months. Payment for the chassis will be payable at that time in order to save \$3450.00.

Fire Dept also discussed with the council putting a \$1 or \$2 fire & service fee on the water bills to collect income for future firetrucks. Our \$5000 put into reserves at the end of the year, just doesn't cover the new firetruck costs which are \$300,000+ now days. Our next truck purchase will probably be the grass unit which is already 21 years old and the "new" Pumper truck which is already 12 years old. This will be discussed more at a later time.

Public Input: No one here.

Storm Sewer Project: Trent Bruce-DGR Engineering talked about getting the project finished as the weather gets warmer. He talks about watching for soft spots as the weather gets warmer, so they can be repaired before the final lift of asphalt is put down. He also wanted to discuss how to use the rest of the grant money we received and haven't used yet. Letcher and him will be going around and seeing what could be done, within the scope of the project with that money.

Also discussed was someone who drove a 4-wheeler through the bottom of the new retention pond making tracks/ruts in it.

Streets & Alleys: Trent Bruce-DGR Engineering also discussed some of the street work to be done this year. Talked about slurry seal for those asphalt streets and chip seal for those streets that the prior chip seal is still holding up.

Parks & Rec: Advertise for Summer Rec job.

Law Enforcement: monthly report for February was noted.

Code Enforcement: New information on the nuisance at 651 E 6th St was addressed. Motion by Anderson, second by Vondra to have attorney do title search for 651 E 6th St and if clean offer to have the property signed over to the city. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Planning & Zoning: No building permits.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to sign the Frontline warning siren agreement for 2021. All voted aye. Motion carried.

City will not have an election this year. Holthaus, Vondra & Hofer are unopposed and will continue in their seats. Open seats are still for Mayor and Ward III.

2020 Annual Report was discussed. Motion by Vondra, second by Hofer to accept 2020 Annual Report. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Local Board of Equalization meeting will be March 15th at 7 pm. Appeals need to be in by Thursday, March 11th.

Council decided to have dumpsters here on May 21st for Spring Clean-up if it works for RBS Sanitation. Also it was asked to put on the Facebook page that due to the parking areas getting soft from the warmer weather, for everyone to put their trash cans into the parking area to keep the garbage trucks in the center of the street while picking up.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hofer, second by Vondra to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 9 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, April 5, 2021.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 3194.88; Dump 274.75; Finance Office 1085.06; Liquor 249.52; Parks 327.50; Sewer 1168.47; Streets 1801.81; Water 1227.82; EFTPS-Feb payroll taxes, 2405.70; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 791.26.

Supplies: Core & Main-4 meters to replace on hand supply, 540.00; Farmers Alliance-shop & firehall propane, 1306.63; McLeod's Printing & Office Supply-laser checks, 149.90; Menards-mostly shop supply, 190.30; Meyer Motor-pumper truck battery, 422.85; Office Depot Inc-FO supply, 64.95; Post Master-water/sewer/garbage bill stamps, 72.00; Potter Tire & Service-Feb gas, diesel supply, 384.82; Runnings-fuel tank & shop supply, 868.39; Stern Oil-2/5 & 2/18 Legion Hall propane fills, 1001.12; Vantek Communications-2 pagers for fire dept, 916.00; Zabel Steel-steel, 55.30.

Repairs & Maintenance: A-OX Welding Supply-shop welding rods, 23.02; Benders Sewer & Drain-sewer and camera line work, 639.00.

Beer and Liquor (paid in February & reimbursed by The North 40): Beal Distributing Inc, 1792.40; Dakota Beverage, 366.80; Johnson Brothers Famous Brands, 236.95; Republic National Distributing Co, 406.58.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc–copier lease agreement, 75.32; Bridgewater Development Corp–monthly donation, 200.00; Bridgewater Tribune (New Century Press)–Feb publishing, 225.38; Frontline Warning Systems-annual siren contract service agreement, 250.00; Humboldt Fire & Amb Services-ALS assist 2/28/21, 150.00; Julson, James-2 amb cot batteries, mileage to Pierre for convention & CPR card/training, 308.30; Julson, Joan-monthly Zoom mtg plan, 15.96; McCook County–Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment, 2112.50; Nordwald Rentals–April rent (Payable 04/01/21), 350.00; Petty Cash-postage, 11.00; RBS Sanitation-Feb garbage pick-up, 2565.00; RBS Sanitation-Feb dumpster fees (Legion Hall, firehall, shop), 150.36; SD Dept Public Health Lab-water testing for Jan, 15.00; SD State Treasurer–Feb garbage, etc. sales tax (We received a 1.5% allowance for timely payments - \$3.44), 225.85.

Utilities (Paid in Feb): Golden West, 310.85; Hanson Rural Water, 3952.80; Xcel Energy, 2035.95.

Insurance: AFLAC-reimbursed by employees, 200.96; American Continental/Aetna-Medicare, 231.66; Cigna-Medicare Part D, 45.80; Health Pool of SD, 1930.39; SD Public Assurance Alliance-adding 2002 HME Equipment Fire truck, 300.85.

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