

Bayard City Council Minutes from 08-10-2023

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Wardyn at 5:31 PM.

Roll Call was taken with Councilmembers Nathan McAlister, Jack Stone, Arnie Kesselring were present. Absent were council members Heather Bielenberg and Brandon Patrick.

Also present were City Clerk Gina Arnold and City worker LeeRoy Wagner, Bayard Attorney Clint Fichter Representing the Library were Carla Hilgenberg, Norma Olesen, Ron White, Linda Long and Dave McCool. Representing the Fire Department Brayton Bonney. Guests were Chris Eddy, Nick Gram, Brenda Dudley, Bill and Kathy Brenny.

July minutes were read and discussed, not approved due to non-publication.

Public Forum was opened and Chris Eddy gave a presentation on the Old rail right of way trail that goes to Herndon. He was asking for Bayard's support to have the trail go through Bayard, and discussed the possible route it would be. After discussion McAlister made a motion to support the trail going through Bayard, Kesselring made the 2nd. All in favor, no nays. Motion carried.

Brenda Dudley from Midwest Partnership gave a presentation to the council on what she does for the county and all of the programs available. There are several programs that she is involved with to help Cities with advertising, development, and growth possibilities.

Nick Gram from Pilot Creek Properties came to discuss and resolve the balances on the water bills for the apartment buildings that he manages in town. It was discussed and decided that he needed to keep current on the monthly consumption and we will work towards a resolution for the past due amount. Clint will draw up the paperwork needed to put a lien on the property.

Library report- Carla Hilgenberg gave the library reports with updates on the past month activities. The storm that came through took out the digital sign, so it needs repaired/replaced. Discussed options on where to put the Bill Cornish Memorial, so that it could be accessed when needed. They brought in the "share a book house" for the council to see.

There was discussion about the Jake Brake complaints. The state and county should put up the signs for this. We will call Guthrie Center Road Department and the DOT to put in a request.

Property nuisances were reviewed and discussed there are a few abandoned properties that need to be addressed. Clint discussed the process in which the city needs to follow in order to take action, so they can be cleaned up. Clint will start the paperwork and bring it to the next meeting.

Fire report given by Brayton Bonney. He reports that they should be getting one of the new trucks in September. The 2nd truck had a bid of \$10,000.00 higher than the 1st truck. The grant that they received will only cover one truck, so there will be possible use of township money and they will continue to do fundraisers to offset the cost for the 2nd truck. There is also the possibility of using money from the public safety fund. There was already approval to use township payments for this so no vote was needed.

Ambulance report-None, although there was discussion on putting the Ambulance in storage as it has not been used. This would help with the insurance costs. There are certain things that need to be done in order to do this. Gina will find out how to go about doing this.

The regular meeting was closed at 6:59 PM and went into a closed session to discuss Real estate (land purchase agreements). Due to premature disclosure of the purchase price would adversely effect the City of Bayard.

Closed session opened at 7:00 PM. This was a recorded session. The purchase agreements for the land needed for the wastewater lagoon project was discussed. The land needed will be negotiated with Bill and Kathy Brenny and Todd and Charlotte Heck. The amount of acres and price per acre were discussed along with all the specifics in the contracts. McAlister made a motion to close the session, 2nd was made by Stone. All in favor, no nays. Motion carried.

The regular meeting was opened at 7:08 PM. Discussion and action to direct the city attorney to proceed with the information discussed in the closed session. Kesselring made a motion to approve that the city attorney, Clint Fichter can proceed with the information discussed in the closed session. 2nd by McAlister. Roll Call vote was taken with Arnie Kesselring, yes, Nathan McAlister, yes, and Jack Stone yes. Absent from the vote were Heather Bielenberg and Brandon Patrick. No nays, motion carried.

Clint discussed the water study and advised that we should stay focused on the highest priority needs.

Discussion and action on the end of year transfers. McAlister made the motion to approve the resolution 8-10-23-1 for the end of year transfers. Stone 2nd the motion. Roll call vote was taken with Arnie Kesselring, yes, Nathan McAlister, yes, Jack Stone, Yes. Absent from the vote Heather Bielenberg and Brandon Patrick.

Discussion and action to approve the waste water lagoon project claims. McAlister made a motion to approve the claims, Stone 2nd the motion. All in favor, no nays motion carried.

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Water/Sewer report given by LeeRoy Wagner. He reports that the softeners have been fixed. The Water Tower repairs will start on the 8th-14th. The Auditors are coming to do a Sanitary Survey Audit. The motor at the sewer plant is having issues and hopefully can get by until next year. Hydrants will be flushed on Sunday the 13th and Monday the 14th.

Streets Report was given by LeeRoy Wagner. The pickup needs new tires on the front. Nathan said to get a bid from New Way Ford. Street signs were discussed and LeeRoy will get the signs ordered. The patch work on the streets has been done and a portion of the bill will be submitted to the Coop. Discussion was had on the semi's that drive on the streets that are not on the truck route. Tickets should be issued for this by the Sheriff's Department.

Mayors Report-Tom reported that there will be a 2nd pick up/drop off location for the school kids by the Catholic Church. This should help with the issue of kids getting across the railroad tracks.

Clerks report was given by Gina Arnold. There was discussion about buying postage from the Bayard Post office. Other topics were covered in the previous discussions.

McAlister made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Stone 2nd the motion, all in favor, no nays. Motion carried. Next meeting Thursday September 14, 2023 @5:30 PM

Date _____

_____ Mayor

_____ Council

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Attest _____