

September 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the City of Bertram was held on the above date at 7:00pm at City Hall. Mayor William Mulholland was present and presided at the meeting. Council members present were Steven Carpenter, David Hunt, Robert Malone, Nancy McBurney, and Chris Price.

Hunt made motion to approve the agenda as posted. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, motion carried.

Linn County Sheriff monthly report: 39.7 hours and 5 calls for service.

Hunt made motion to approve the minutes from the Aug 7 meeting. MSB McBurney. None opposed, motion carried.

McBurney made motion to accept and pay the following bills for September. MSB Price. None opposed, motion carried.

Warrant No	Payee	Purpose	Amount
041	Alliant Energy	City Hall Electricity	57.47
042	Alliant Energy	Street Lights	535.06
043	Alliant Energy	City Park Electricity	34.91
044	Alliant Energy	High Point Park Electricity	21.04
045	Verizon Wireless	Phone/Internet	92.22
046	Woodward Community Media	Publication Fees	80.77
047	IPERS	Retirement Benefits for Aug Payroll	87.78
048	Jason Houghtaling	Payroll	358.89
049	Morgan Houghtaling	Payroll	199.13
050	Anthony Vislisel	Payroll	61.97
051	Lisa Berry	Payroll	903.62
052	Casey's Business MasterCard	Fuel for City Eqpt	152.01
053	Butch's Water Service	Repairs to city park well	95.00
054	William Mulholland	Reimbursement for posts/hdwe for disc golf signs	83.30
055	Linn Co-Op Oil Co	Tire replacement on tractor	972.56
056	Lisa Berry	Reimbursement for fuel for city eqpt	82.79
057	William Mulholland	Payroll	277.05
058	Steven Carpenter	Payroll	138.52
059	David Hunt	Payroll	138.38
060	Robert Malone	Payroll	138.52
061	Nancy McBurney	Payroll	138.52
062	Christopher Price	Payroll	101.02
063	Monticello Equipment Co	Purchase new tractor	46,981.00
		Total Bills for Operating Account	51,731.53
W009	Alliant Energy	City Well Electricity	120.57
W010	Jared Vogeler	Operations for Aug	300.00
W011	Keystone Laboratories, Inc	Water Testing Aug	12.50
		Total Bills for Water Account	433.07
		Total Bills for September	52,164.60

Hunt made motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ended Aug 31, 2019. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, motion carried.

	Beg Fund Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	End Fund Balance	Investments	Total Fund Balance
General	473,967.43	276.37	3,764.02	470,479.78	194,436.34	664,916.12
Road Use Tax	80,526.04	4,248.38	0.00	84,774.42		84,774.42
LOST	87,843.22	3,164.09	0.00	91,007.31		91,007.31
Building Fund	17,812.22	0.00	0.00	17,812.22		17,812.22
Capital Projects	(391,513.61)	0.00	0.00	(391,513.61)		(391,513.61)
Water	13,433.88	0.00	612.63	12,821.25		12,821.25
Total Clerk's Balance	282,069.18	7,688.84	4,376.65	285,381.37	194,436.34	479,817.71
Total Outstanding				0.00		
Total Bank Balance				285,381.37		

Planning & Zoning Committee met to discuss a property just south of city limits with split land use. Property owner wishes to parcel off a plot where the house sits, but it is currently split between two separate land uses per county records. Per two-mile agreement in place with the county, the City needs to determine best land use for the property. P&Z Committee decided the property should be classified as Critical Natural Resource Area but will need to update the City's Land Use Plan to accommodate for this category. Malone made motion to accept the Planning & Zoning Committee's recommendation. MSB Price. None opposed, motion carried. Chad Sands from ECICOG will notify county of the decision.

Carpenter made motion to approve and adopt the Street Financial Report (SFR) for the period ending June 30, 2019. MSB Price. None opposed. Motion carried to adopt **Resolution No. R-5-2019**: Now therefore, be it resolved that the city council Bertram, Iowa on September 4, 2019 did hereby approve and adopt the annual City Street Financial Report from Jul 1, 2018 to Jun 30, 2019.

Culvert/ditch work at 1214 2nd Street needs to get done. County does not have a timeline of their availability but cannot commit to anything in 2019. Property owner received a bid from a contractor, RL Snitker, for \$4765 to dig out, but contends the area will still have drainage issues unless the approach is raised. Price to investigate usage of fiber optic line and attempt to get the culvert dug out and ditch graded. It was noted that City needs to move on city-wide water mitigation.

Estimate to seal City Hall and City Park parking lots prior to striping from Kluesner was \$2,147.85 and \$1,848.00, respectively. LL Pelling indicated seal coating is more for aesthetics than necessity to extend surface life. Council decided to proceed with striping without seal coating based on previously approved estimates.

Tim McDermott from VJ Engineering was present to discuss the Big Creek Road bridge. He offered examples of repairing a bridge to historical requirements and of replacing. Repairing can be complicated, especially since it is a steel truss bridge, timeline would be longer based on steel fabrication time, and design life would only extend life another 20 years. Replacement would be safe, but boring, would take approximately 9 months to complete, cost estimation is easier than steel truss bridges, and would have a 75-year life. Very rough estimates indicate costs might be similar for either option. Tim recommends a feasibility study and analysis to help the City decide the best course of action, which could cost up to \$7,000.

Hunt made motion to purchase trees to fulfill the Trees Forever grant not to exceed \$3,000, with balance of grant money (\$832.00) to be used for incidental supplies. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, motion carried. Tree planting date is tentatively scheduled for Sep 14, 2019. Price to check with Fleming Nursery to purchase trees: birch, Frasier fir, Norway spruce, cherry and apple. City to recognize Trees Forever and Alliant Energy in public announcements.

FEMA increased the eligible cost for the Ely Street bridge project to \$1,293,875.07, 75% of which is reimbursable by FEMA or \$970,406.77. The balance still owed the City is now \$257,503.27. EMA still plans to provide reimbursement money once we receive the final FEMA payment.

Price and Hunt reviewed options to replace the city tractor. A skid loader isn't a feasible option for snow removal, and attachments would be expensive to obtain. It was determined a tractor would be the best option as we can use existing attachments. They received two bids (P&K \$47,209.05 net of trade-in; Bodensteiner \$46,981.00 net of trade-in) for a brand new 2019 John Deere tractor, including a warranty. Titan did not reply with a bid when requested. The new tractor will be able to handle the brush mower, has a bucket with 3800# capacity. Hunt made motion to accept the Bodensteiner bid of \$46,981.00. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, motion carried.

Reserve funds to cover major repairs to the water utility is decreasing year-over-year. There have been no adjustments to water usage rates since inception of the system in 2006, despite increases in utility and testing rates, and increased maintenance needs. The Council has determined, with help of a consultant, that reserve funds should be at least \$20,000. In order to get to this level of reserves within two years, the proposed rate would increase from \$20.00/month for the first 5,000 gallons of usage to \$31.50 for the first 2,000 gallons. Rate would increase to \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons on usage above 2,000 gallons (currently \$3.00/1,000 gal). Hunt recommended moving forward with this proposal. Clerk to notify all water customers with the next billing and will generate the proposed ordinance.

Correspondence: Hunt – Codification process is moving forward and a draft should be available for review soon. Carpenter – Reminder of roadside cleanup on Sep 8, 2019. Price – Wishes to thank everyone who helped with the Homecoming.

Open to the Floor:

Nancy McBurney has to replace septic system and is requesting use of the empty city lot adjacent to her property to get the trucks to the back of the lot for the work. They will fix any repairs to the city lot should the trucks cause any damage. No objections from Council

Paul Bryant has a tree along the ditch that needs to be addressed. Council to assess if it is in the City right of way or is property owner's responsibility. He has also offered to cut down dead trees in High Point (will provide his own insurance). Council to consider.

Dixie Long has reported a party bus crossing the Big Creek Road bridge (buses are rated above the maximum capacity for the bridge).

Bonnie Pospisil reported a street light out on Ely Street between RR tracks and bridge.

McBurney made motion to adjourn. MSB Price. None opposed, meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Lisa Berry, Clerk