

**August 17, 2020**

An emergency session of the Council of the City of Bertram was held on the above date at 7:00pm by phone and web due to discuss derecho storm cleanup efforts, recovery and resources. This meeting was held via phone/Zoom. Mayor David Hunt presided at the meeting. Council members in attendance were Steven Carpenter, Kim Morahan, Bill Mulholland, Chris Price, and Margy Wilson.

Damages have been noted at the following City buildings:

- City Hall: Roof damage, flagpole, lights on the flagpole
- City Park: Minor damage to roof of pavilion, possible damage to tennis court, netting and fence surrounding the court
- Pump house: Eaves, fascia, shingles and fence damage
- High Point structures do not have any visible damage

A federal disaster has been declared, which means much of the expenses will be eligible for FEMA reimbursement. We will need to know hours equipment is sitting idle and in motion while working on clean-up efforts. If we get a dumpster for residents, it would be reimbursable including tipping fees (ABC doesn't have one available for two weeks, but we are on their waiting list). No one opposed to getting a dumpster.

A grapple bucket was acquired Friday, August 14 for \$4400. If residents can get brush/limbs to the curb laying parallel to street, six- to eight-feet in length, City can pick up from there.

Public Works priorities for cleanup were/are:

- Clearing streets
- Clear pumphouse surrounding area
- Clear trees from City Hall roof
- Managing debris/burn pile (continual priority). Preference will be to burn brush and haul large trunks to A Street Compost & Yard Waste facility. Burn pile is currently closed as it is full. Residents should continue to pile by the curb for now. There may be surrounding cities without much damage that would be willing to assist with hauling debris from street sides.

The generator at the pump house didn't come on initially when the power went out but didn't start on its own. We will need to get this serviced to ensure it will start on its own. We will also want to closely monitor LP level to ensure we do not run out (refill costs will be eligible for reimbursement).

Per Linn County EMA, we can hire someone to chip up brush and small limbs. If we do this, the intent would be to save the mulch for later use at the park.

City workers to assess a hanging tree in Rustic Ridge. Base of tree is on private property, but part of it is overhanging the street.

Linn County is waiving all building permit fees for repairs needed as a result of the derecho, but residents must still get a permit. The County encourages property owners to vet contractors for tree removal to ensure they have insurance.

Food assistance is available at Vets Memorial Coliseum in Cedar Rapids.

Meeting ended at 7:45pm.

Lisa Berry  
Clerk