

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes

August 18 @ 6:00 PM

Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jody Gordon at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council people, Rich Majerus, Kyle Blattner, Mark Gerken, as well as Lisa Redepenning. Councilmember Jered Buxengard and treasure Kyle McKeown and City Engineer Matt Mohs were absent.

Minutes of July, 2021 meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Kyle Blattner to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Rich Majerus with a second by Mark Gerken to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Sewer Grant – update progress. More funds are needed to pay for easements and other unforeseen expenses.
- ADA bathroom for Community Center – update progress. Child changing table and paint touch up needs to be done. This is the final update.
- Park Upgrades. No further updates this year, more picnic tables and other items. No further updates on this until next year.
- Review Preliminary Budget – discuss.

New business:

- Security Camera for Recycle Bins – We have had issues with burn pile. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to purchase the camera for the recycle bin and burn piles. Motion carried.
- Water/Wastewater Project GAP funds survey review
- MMS Environmental Service and Operating Contract Renewal. Motion was made by Mark Gerken with an 2nd by Rich Majerus to renew the MMS contract for sewer monitoring. Motion carried.

Engineering Report –

Clerk Report – 2021 - Preliminary Budget – I did receive the 2022 LGA amount and put in the new police charge on the budget worksheet. Water/Wastewater funding – I contacted the League of MN cities on clarification on how to pay for the upcoming project. They did say that the Water and Sewer accounts are enterprise accounts, meaning they are to collect fees to pay for the ongoing running and maintenance of both of these services. They did say that it is possible that part of the cost of the project can be assessed to benefited properties. I have contacted Goodhue County as to how we handle this. I assume it's the same as a school levy that is set for a certain amount of time

until the loan is paid off, but I am confirming that. Camera System for recycle Bins – I spoke to Stoddard Telecom (I do bookwork for them) about a camera system at the recycling area. He quoted 2 cameras and recorder that would be able to show license plates and faces. It holds 40 days of footage and then records over. If we needed to get footage from it, it would just need a USB drive to copy off that portion of the tape to. He indicated it would be \$600.00. I also inquired with the county on cost and signage that is similar to what is in Goodhue by their recycle bins that the county also manages. Draft Gap funding Survey Mailing – I have included in the packet the documents that will be sent in the September utility mailing. These are in draft format. Any changes, let me know; otherwise, this is what will go to each household that we need to have them return. I am getting wording from Matt on the reason why we need this and the consequence of NOT being able to do this project due to not meeting the required survey return results. You can use this in conversation with residents about the importance of them responding. I will forward to you when I receive them. I recommend including a self-address, stamped envelope as an option for returning surveys. Park Improvements Fund Balance - \$5022.91 - FYI. Revenue Received in July – Goodhue County 2nd half Tax payment (\$27,560.28), 1st half LGA from State (\$11,990.50), Small City assist from state (\$5731.00) and American Rescue Plan from Federal Govt (\$9206.08). SEARCH Grant – I submitted the final invoice from Bolten & Menk to Laurie for reimbursement.

Treasurer Report – Utility past due list was distributed and reviewed.

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report – None.

Mayor Concerns – Speed issues in town was discussed. Electrical pole concern. Chopper event went well.

Council Concerns:

Adjourn

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Mark Gerken to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm. Next meeting is September 15 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk

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- **Yard Cleanup** – Please take the time to clean up anything stored on your property. Please be mindful that other people may not enjoy your lawn storage – please help to make our city tidy.
 - **Fee Change for Utility Bills** – Shut off fee was eliminated with a single reconnect fee of \$100, a 10% interest fee after 90 days and returned check fee of \$25.
 - **Burn Pile** – Please remember that burn pile is for brush and leaves only. We can get fined for all other items left here. The burn pile is for Bellechester City residents only. If you witness any dumping of unauthorized items or non city resident use, please call us.
 - **Recycling** - Please recycle whenever you can. There is a recycling bin located on the north end of town by GB Feed and Supply. By recycling, this will keep our garbage rates from rising.
 - **Power Outages** – If you have power outage in your home, please check Xcel’s website for an update on current outages and contact them directly as they provide the power for Bellechester.