

# **Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes**

## **February 16, 2022 @ 6:00PM**

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, Jered Buxengard as well as City Engineer Matt Mohs and City Clerk Lisa Redepenning. Treasurer Kyle McKeown and Council member Mark Gerken were absent. Luke from SE Choppers as well as Paul Reding were also present.

**Mayor Gordon read the Conflict of Interest statement out loud.** With no council member stating conflicts, the public hearing was opened at 6:05. Matt recapped the project with costs. 1.3 million, which we are requesting \$600,000 of a grant. Public hearing was open for comments. Clay tiled lines will be ‘sock’ lined, as to not have to dig up all lines within the city. Rural Development portion is a loan, with the rest being grants that the city is trying to acquire. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jered Buxengard to accept the conflict of interest. Motion carried.

**Public Hearing was closed** – Mayor Gordon closed the public hearing at 6:10.

Minutes of January, 2022 meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a second by Rich Majerus to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

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

### **Old Business:**

- Sewer Grant – update progress. Matt Mohs spoke briefly from Rural Development regarding our grant. Our Preliminary Engineer report was accepted with contingencies that were stated. One of the items they stated is a requirement is water meters. There is a cost for this that is above and beyond our project costs and would be a separate project.
- Old Bar Property – update. The price Wabasha County asks of \$5,000 was rejected by council. This issue is closed.

### **New business:**

- SE Choppers Dance Permit. The permit is for the annual dance that occurred last year. The date is August 20. Motion was made by Kyle Blattner with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Majerus to approve the dance permit for SE Choppers on August 20, 2022. Motion carried.
- League of MN Cities Insurance Renewal – review, make any changes and approve. Discussion was made on adding our new generator and verifying the value of the ponds for insurance purposes. When reviewed last time, it was a cost per acre that was quoted by Bolton Menk. It could not be lowered at that time, but we will try to give them justification on possibly lowering it. Motion was made by Jered Buxengard with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Majerus

to approve and renew the League of MN Cities Insurance Coverage with possible changes that was discussed to be verified. Motion carried.

- Resolution 2022.2 - Support of a Small Cities Development Program Project – approve. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Blattner to approve and support the Small City Development Project. Motion carried.
- Resolution 2022.3 – Resolution to redesignating polling place for 2022. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Blattner to approve the resolution to re designating polling places for 2022. Motion carried.

**Engineer Report** – Easements are done and will be reviewed.

**Clerk Report** – Year end is closed out – all reports and files have been uploaded to state and CTAS update is done. Dog Licenses – have been updated and a few reminders were sent in January for missing information and/or payment. Utility Billing – will be done in March. Notices about Board of Equalization on April 16th as well as the meeting date change will be in the mailing. New Residents FYI – when new residents move into Bellechester, I send a new resident welcome letter with City information including garbage, recycling, building permit, voting and dog licenses. I also send voter registration cards and a utility billing sheet for the remainder of the time they are in the house until next billing. I notify Kyle to switchover with new name and inform council also. Street Loan -Payment made on February 1 - FYI - \$ 46,725.00

**Treasurer Report** – Past due list was discussed.

**Water/Wastewater/Facility Report** – New Chlorine pump needs to be purchased for failing pump in north pump house. Service work in south pump house on water line and check on cleaning pressure tank.

**Mayor Concerns:** Vehicles in yards in town was discussed.

**Council Concerns:** Snow plowing timeline was discussed.

## **Adjourn**

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Kyle Blattner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm. Next meeting is February 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepening – City Clerk

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- **Reminder - No motor vehicle shall be left parked on any street(s) or public way in the City, from Nov. 1 thru April 1 the hours of 2am until 6am.**
  - **April Council meeting will be changed to Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30**