

# **Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes**

## **January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jody Gordon at 10:00 a.m.

Pledge to the flag.

**Oath of Office** – Oath was administered to Jered Buxengard, Jody Gordon & Kyle Blattner.

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

Minutes of December, 2020 meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Mark Gerken with a second by Rich Majerus to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

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

### **Old Business:**

- Locker Plant – update progress. No update
- Portable Generator – update progress. Waiting for it to be delivered.
- Sewer Grant – update progress. Matt updated on the SEARCH grant with USDA. We were approved for \$30,000 for the process of researching.
- Old Bar – update. No update.
- ADA bathroom for Community Center – update progress. Greg Majerus was to look into this. No further update.
- Engineer Report, Matt Mohs, City Engineer/ Bolton & Menk, Inc.– update on projects. Manhole inspection has begun to see what their status is, which is a standard procedure for any I & I work. Matt will begin the reports on this project and get to us. Matt is also wanting to get the application in with the state with a revolving loan fund for city infrastructure.

### **New business:**

- Committee Appointments for 2021 ~ Acting Mayor: Mark Gerken; Ambulance: Rich Majerus; Bank: First Farmers & Merchants; Attorney: Gorman; Fire Association: Kyle Blattner/Jered Buxengard; Paper: News Record; City Engineer: Matt Mohs ~ Bolton & Menk, Inc. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jered Buxengard to make above assignments for 2020 as the same as 2019. Motion carried.
- Change of Council meeting date and time. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kyle Blattner to move the council meeting to 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:00. Motion carried.
- Approve move of April meeting to Tuesday, April 13 at 5:30, set Board of Equalization Meeting for April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 and discuss training requirements. Motion was made by Mark Gerken with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jered Buxengard to move the meetings to stated date and time. Motion carried.

- Local Road Improvement Program Grant Discussion – Matt Mohs, City Engineer. Great Western Avenue road improvements. This grant can address current drainage issues and can possibly upgrade the street for future use. Engineering costs are not included in this grant. \$1.25 million cap is available for this grant. Applications are due March 1st. Takes about 30-40 hours to complete paperwork (\$2,000 - \$5,000 approximate cost). We would need the county to sponsor the application. Matt spoke to the county regarding this. We would hear by May if we qualify. Council decided we will pass on this for now.
- 2021 Goodhue County Seal Coating – Council decided we will pass on this.
- Authorization for signature change at Bank to new mayor/remove old. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> Kyle Blattner to authorize the bank to remove Greg Majerus and add Jody Gordon as signer for the checking account, savers plus account and the safe deposit box. Motion carried.
- Approve Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Statement. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jered Buxengard to approve the 2020 Financial Statement for City of Bellechester. Motion carried.

**Clerk Report** – 2nd Half LGA received in December - \$ 11,697.00. Matt Mohs – City Engineer will be here to update and discuss current engineering projects in the city. Year End Processing – Is done. Check Order – we are running low on our stock of checks. I have contacted the vendor and received a quote of approx. \$275. The last time we ordered checks was 3/2015 and it was for 1000 checks. Auto Payment – we can setup Countryside Disposal on autopay as well as Nuvera. Both are monthly checks.

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

**Water/Wastewater/Facility Report** – Need air compressor. \$1600 - \$1700 estimate for replacement. Chlorine pump may also need replacement. \$900 approximate cost. Pressure gauges need to be purchased. \$100 x 2. Gophers were seen at softball field.

**Mayor Concerns:** Skating rink was brought up. It does not work without putting plastic down first and we do not have this. Past years, weather has caused issues.

**Council Concerns:** None.

## Adjourn

Motion was made by Mark Gerken with a second by Rich Majerus to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 11:17 pm. Next meeting is February 17 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk

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- **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.