

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2020

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Greg Majerus at 10:10 a.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Greg Majerus, Council people Doug Majerus, Rich Majerus, Brian Ringeisen, and Mark Gerken as well as Lisa Redepenny. Treasurer Kyle McKeown was absent.

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

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Brian Ringeisen with a second by Doug Majerus to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Q & A – Representative Barb Haley – could not attend.

Old Business:

- Locker Plant – update progress. Still being worked on by owner.
- Portable Generator – update progress. Cement is poured and landscaping will be done. Trailer work is being done. Generator will be coming in next few months.
- Sewer Grant – update progress. Paperwork was signed and sent that started the process. We are looking into ADA upgrades to city-owned buildings to be in compliance for getting grants.
- Mowers – update status – we have new mower. Discussion on old mower.
- Dog Fostering/Kennel – discuss. Vaccination records will need to sent to clerk on incoming dogs. An open license was purchased for this.
- Old Bar – was removed. Wabasha County paid for the removal of the bar, as they are currently the owners. Discussion on putting in crushed rock or something to have a base on it in the spring. We will try planting oats on it to keep the soil from eroding.
- COVID money – there may be another round of funding. The current funding that was allocated to Bellechester was split between BCCA and Bellechester Tavern.

New business:

- Special Assessments – discussion. We can work with any resident that contacts the city regarding not being able to pay bills. November meeting assessments will be set.
- Set Public Hearing for SEARCH Grant Process for November 13, 2020 – Resolution #2020.2 Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Mark Gerken to set public hearing and change council date to Friday, November 13th. Motion carried.
- November meeting – discuss date and/or time for both meetings. November meeting will be moved to Friday, November 13th at 10:00.

Clerk Report – Election - Canvassing of Results – we were notified by the county that the state is extending mail in voting mailing time to allow 7 days for them to be received after the mandatory election day timestamp. Therefore, we will need to have a special meeting on November 13th. We need to pick a time. Barb Haley - member of the Minnesota House of Representatives and represents District 21A in southeastern Minnesota. She will be at our meeting for a Q and A with you. Please have questions in mind for the time she will be here. Dog Boarding/Fostering/Kennel – when I posted this question to other clerks, no one seem to have anything specific to fostering and/or boarding. Outhouse at Ball Park – it was removed on 9/25. With the increase of vandalism this year, we will need to consider this next spring, as the monthly fee is \$90/month. Public Hearing on Sewer Project – this is a requirement for the SEARCH grant. I have provided Laurie at USDA everything else so far that is required. 3rd Quarter Utility Mailing – was mailed out on 9/26.

Treasurer Report – Past due report was distributed.

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report – Discharging the ponds is being done right now and flushing of hydrants will occur the weekend of the 23rd.

Mayor Concerns: None

Council Concerns: A resident was concerned about street damage done by forklifts on streets. It will be addressed. Dan Poncelet expressed interest on putting up posting on property he owns and has questions on placement. He will be advised to come to council to discuss this.

Motion was made by Brian Ringeisen with a second by Mark Gerken to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:58 pm. Next meeting is November 13 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk

Due to the closure of the bank, utility bills can be dropped off at the black mailbox on the deck at the Treasurer's house (Kyle) at 204 Red Wing Avenue.

- **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.