CITY OF BENKELMAN

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022

The City Council met in the Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. for the Regular Meeting. Present: Mayor Robert Rhoades; Council Members Nicholas Baney, JoAnn Decker, Barbara Pinkerton, Deb Stamm; City Clerk Diane Rosenfelt; City Superintendent James Summers; Acting Police Chief/Sheriff Nichols. Others Present: Sharon Rhoades, Buck Menuez, Linda Seabolt, Mary Deyle and Tammy Buffington. Shawn Prochaska, PE Chief Electrical Engineer from RVW, Inc. was present by phone.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Rhoades called the meeting to order and stated that we follow the open meetings law, which is posted on the south wall by the main entrance.

Mayor Rhoades Comments: Mayor Rhoades discussed having the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of our meetings, this was something him and his wife Sharon (4) four years ago had seen at a council meeting in McCook and so the City of Benkelman has been doing this, it has been a nice addition to our City Council Meetings; buildings that have metal roofs with the tin flopping in the wind and the damage it could cause to our electrical lines if not corrected, James will talk to the owners of the buildings about getting repairs done.

Shawn Prochaska Chief Electrical Engineer for RVW, Inc. spoke with the council on the Electrical System Planning Study (September 2021). Phase 1:

* Work Completed
* Work Remaining
* Phase 1 Budget:
* Approved $615,400
* Used $167,019
* Remaining $448,381
* Increased Labor & Material Costs
* How to proceed with approved budget

Council member JoAnn Decker commented that the council has approved Phase 1 and Phase 2, and they want to move forward with the project. We realize that the projects are going to take longer than we had planned because of shortages.

Trevor Horner was not present to discuss funding for the Furman Property. Council member JoAnn Decker mentioned that we had already approved to forgive the dump fees for the clean-up process before demo of the property. Mary Deyle asked to be put on the agenda for January to discuss this issue with the City Council.

Trevor Horner also was wanting to discuss the registration for lifeguard training; Lynette will get some information on this, and have it put in the paper and on Facebook for individuals that are interested in being lifeguards.

CRA minutes from the December 7th and 14th meetings were in the packets.

Acting Police Chief/Sheriff Nichols gave the monthly Police Report. The council thanked Sheriff Nichols for his years of service to the City of Benkelman and wished him the best of luck, they have enjoyed working with him.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Council member JoAnn Decker made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Nick Baney. Ayes: Baney, Decker, Pinkerton, Stamm; nays: none. Motion passed.

* Approve Minutes of November 21, 2022, Regular Meeting.
* Approve Treasurers Report.
* Approve Bills.
* Approve & have Mayor sign Certificate of Compliance No. 130 with DOT for snow removal.
* Approve & Sign 2023 Maintenance Agreement Renewal No. 130 with DOT.
* Approve HSA deposits of $2,000 into each City Employees Account that has Health Insurance through the city.
* Planning Commissions Minutes: Approved Deidre Blecha; 715 Cheyenne Street/Fence Permit.

City Clerk Diane Rosenfelt told the City Council that we had received a check in the amount of $9,824.97 from BCBS of Nebraska since we are a level-funded group, based on the criteria outlined in our Administrative Services Agreement and performance during 2021 contract year, we were eligible for a profit-share payment.

Enclosed in the packets was a Water Report that was submitted by Jeremiah Unger (attached to these minutes).

No Garbage Report this month.

City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Rosenfelt gave her monthly report (attached to these minutes).

City Superintendent James Summers gave his monthly report (attached to these minutes).

Council member JoAnn Decker presented Mayor Rhoades with a Framed Certificate of Appreciation for his (4) four years as Mayor and thanked him for the improvements he made for the City of Benkelman.

City Clerk Diane Rosenfelt administered the oath of office to: Council Member Elect Deb Stamm (East Ward), Council Member Elect JoAnn Decker (West Ward) and Mayor Elect Tammy Buffington (Mayor).

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

 Robert Rhoades, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Diane L. Rosenfelt, City Clerk