

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
August 8th, 2023

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members John Stenvold, Luke Anderson, Neil Weaving, and Al Colemer. Also attending were Deputy Jon Wold, Donovan Hajek, David Jacobson, Lyle Bopp, Alicia Thompson and Sara Dux.

All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by John Stenvold to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the July 11, 2023 regular city council meeting. Motion carried.

Deputy Jon Wold reported on the Sheriff's Departments recent activities and hours worked. 100 service hours were reported for the month of July and the report noted 20 service calls and 4 arrests including one DUI during the fair. Several follow-up questions were asked regarding any further developments stemming from the drug arrests and investigation that has been ongoing. Wold also informed the council about the Department's continued efforts to implement a School Resource Officer (SRO) within the county's three public schools and said that it would most likely be him who would become the SRO. Wold briefly discussed the training he would be attending and what his role in the school setting would look like.

City Superintendent Donavon Hajek then gave an update on recent work around the city. Hajek asked whose responsibility it is to clean Drain #4. Mayor Bopp will follow up with Wendy Willprecht to have the item added to the next water board meeting. Hajek relayed to the council that the county has enough metal culverts to replace the one that is in disrepair behind the Fairview apartments on 2nd Street, but they suggested using plastic, if possible. Donovan will request quotes for the materials and get back to the council with the cost. Maintenance staff has been working on cleaning out the Red Shed and is continuing to clean the city shop and make necessary updates to the water plant, including replacing corroded parts on the chlorine lines. Donovan will work on getting an estimate for a list of sidewalk repairs to be done around the city, including the cement work needed by David Jacobson's house after repairing the curb stop there.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson and seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the city auditor's report including the July 2023 financial statements and payment of the bills. Motion carried. The delinquency report will be sent out to council for review after it is completed by Jamie Stanton Ring, who is still doing some work in the auditor's office.

City Attorney, Lyle Bopp, advised the council on a question regarding a liquor license to serve at a wedding at the Fairgrounds. Kevin will follow up with the bar manager who requested the permit to give them steps on how to proceed.

City Coordinator Sara Dux sent her report previously to the council. She reviewed her recent activities including work on the city's strategic plan, work on adding 6 blocks to the Renaissance Zone inventory, research on several new grant opportunities including the BCBS SPARK grant, and continued CarFest event planning. Dux also informed the council that the mobile advocate from the Abuse Resource Network in Lisbon will begin using the Forman Library as a space to

meet with clients. Dux also presented the council with an application for the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District's Matching Recreation Grant Program and asked for approval of the proposed project to expand and enhance the city's community gardens. This will include moving the site of the garden beds to a new location, adding more garden beds for public use, purchasing and installing several benches to be placed at the new location, and purchasing and using gravel/bedding to make an accessible path to the community gardens. John Stenvold made a motion to approve the application and the proposed work to be done at the site of the new community gardens. Al Colemer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The council then discussed old business. New garbage cans for Main Street have not yet been ordered but Sara will work on getting them ordered. The Council welcomes Alicia Thompson as the new City Auditor. Alicia will start training in the office on August 21st and will work Monday through Thursday with Friday hours as needed.

In new business, a motion was made by Luke Anderson and seconded by Al Colemer to approve a building permit from Glenn and Leah Schulz for the construction of a "shouse" at 213 2nd St SW. The council also discussed the purchase of a used lawnmower. A motion was made by Luke Anderson and seconded by John Stenvold to approve the purchase of a mower up to \$10,000. Roll call: Anderson, aye; Colemer, aye; Stenvold, aye; Weaving, aye. Kevin will follow up on a post about a mower for sale. Sales tax changes approved at the June 2023 meeting will be made effective starting October 1, 2023. Public notices have been sent to all entities who make sales tax payments and will be posted at City Hall. A notice will also be posted on the city's website. The council then discussed the preliminary budget for 2024. Several budget items were reviewed using spreadsheets and financial information provided by Trish Pearson. A motion was made by Al Colemer and seconded by Luke Anderson to approve the preliminary budget for 2024. Roll call: Colemer, aye; Stenvold, nay; Weaving, abstain; Anderson, aye. Motion carried.

The Preliminary Budget meeting will be held September 12, 2023 at 5pm to be followed by the next regular council meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Jamie Stanton Ring, City Auditor