

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
November 12, 2019

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Luke Anderson, Al Colemer, John Stenvold and Neil Weaving. Also attending were Lyle Bopp, Trish Pearson and Paige Cary. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Librarian, Debbie Carton and Library Board President, Ambra Warcken were present to discuss issues with the library building. The library has had issues with water coming in the front window area for several years. The main windows were replaced and sealing and caulking has been done, but the rain still comes in. The sills and trim are damaged and there is concern that there is more damage within the walls. Contractor Chris Olson inspected the front of the building. It appears water is coming in behind the rock facing on the building. Several of the rocks are loose and there are cracks in the mortar. Carton received an estimate of \$9,400 to remove the rock facing, remove and re-install the two newer windows, replace the two smaller windows and install tin on the front of the building. Carton also informed the council that the library was awarded a no-match grant to rewire the computers and routers and move that equipment into the back room. Approval was given previously for repairs to the mechanical room, but was put on hold when the roof needed to be replaced. Those repairs will still need to be done. Carton indicated that all repair work would be scheduled for this spring. Since the work wasn't needed immediately, A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by John Stenvold to table further discussion until the January meeting. Motion carried.

Moore Engineering was not in attendance but sent their report. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to remove from the table the discussion and decisions on the payment of the invoice they submitted in October and requested approval of a proposed engineering amendment on the trail project. The council reviewed the project and the corrective work, which will not be completed until spring. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to approve payment of invoice #21993 in the amount of \$38,476.27 of which the city share is \$3,847.63 and to deny Engineering Amendment #3, which would increase the engineering contract by \$18,615.00. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the October 8, 2019 regular city council meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Al Colemer to approve the city auditor's report including the October financial statements, delinquency report and payment of the bills. Mayor Bopp noted that the cost for electricity for the 22 new lights on Highway 32 is very low in comparison to the rest of the city's lights. The council directed the city auditor to contact Ottertail Power about the cost of changing over existing lighting to LED's. Motion carried.

There is a parcel with three city lots coming up on the county's tax sale. If the lots do not sell, the city has the right to purchase those lots. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to purchase Lots 9-12, Block 11, East Side Addition for the price of \$1 plus the outstanding special assessments of \$1,866.51 if the lots are not sold at the tax sale. Motion carried.

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. Mayor Bopp noted that we have another water line break at 6th St and Cedar Ave. Corrective work is under way.

City Attorney Lyle Bopp has several items he is working on. There are several issues that have arisen with Rick Hoistad. Bopp presented a petition to vacate certain streets and alleys in the city. He suggested we extend the portion of Maple Ave W between blocks 20 and 21 in the first addition, west to the corporate limits. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the petition with the noted addition. Motion carried. There will be a public hearing on the petition to vacate at our December meeting. The policing contract that the city approved has not been presented to the county commissioners by the sheriff. John Stenvold will contact Sheriff Paeper about the contract.

There was no report from the Sheriff.

Paige Cary reported on various activities. She has a new "Shop Local" campaign starting soon. The new daycare in town has had some issues getting things off the ground, but seems to be improving. Cary has

reached out to MDU about natural gas. She prepared an online petition to encourage Ken's to open the grocery store in town, which has overwhelming response. She has been working with residents on the cat issue in town and will start a Go Fund Me page to help cover the cost of spaying and neutering captured cats that will then be relocated to farms that have volunteered to take them in. Paige asked the council to approve a resolution authorizing participation in Sargent County Complete Count Committee for 202 Census. A motion was made by Al Colemer, Luke Anderson to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

The city will be installing two yield signs by the Kwik Stop.

Council discussed two possible uses for the FEMA Grants that are available. One is the drain across the county fairgrounds. The County would likely have to apply on this. The other is the drain from the school to the slough north of town. We will get the application and see what the requirements are. The deadline is December 20.

Charge on Together Childcare submitted an application for property tax incentives. The council reviewed the questions in the standardized business incentive program they previously approved. It was the council's opinion that this is a value added business that qualifies for the new business incentive and that it is in the city's interest to approve the application. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to approve the application for property tax incentives for Charge on Together Childcare. Roll call vote: all voted aye. Motion carried. Application was approved.

Trent Nelson submitted an application for property tax incentives requesting continuation of the present property tax incentives based on a change in project operation. The previously approved and subsequently revoked tax incentive was for the storage building, which was part of Nelson Home Center. The council reviewed the questions for approving business tax incentives and did not feel that this application meets the criteria. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to deny the application. Roll call vote: all voted aye. Motion carried. Application was denied.

Mayor Kevin Bopp noted that RayMac had submitted an application for a building permit for an addition to their office building. As this was a time critical project, he reviewed the plans and approved the permit. The council had no objections.

There is a conflict with the next regularly scheduled meeting date. The December meeting was changed to Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 4:00 pm. Please note both the date and time change.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor