

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
April 13, 2021

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 6:25 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Luke Anderson, Al Colemer, and Neil Weaving. John Stenvold was absent. Also attending were Trish Pearson, Paige Cary, Lyle Bopp, Michael Keiper, Al Kjelden, Amy Anderson, Cindy Klapperich and Jesse Mastenbrook

All Stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Neil Weaving, seconded by Al Colemer to approve the agenda for regular council meeting. Motion carried.

Paige Cary made the presentation for the City of Forman's first annual Citizen of the Year award. Nominations were made by residents then reviewed by an independent committee of four residents, who made the final decision. The award was given to Al Kjelden for his outstanding citizenship in Forman. Mayor Kevin Bopp presented a plaque to Mr. Kjelden for his service.

There was no report from the sheriff.

NDSU Extension agent, Cindy Klapperich made a presentation to the council for a program she will be presenting in July called Lead Local. It is an interactive one day event designed to help people take on leadership roles in community organizations. She invited any council members to attend and asked if the city would consider being a sponsor of the event with a monetary contribution.

Jesse Mastenbrook approached the council regarding water service to the property he purchased west of the Kwik Stop where he is building a car wash. The closest water main is on Third Street. He asked the council to consider extending the water main down the service road up to the front of his property. He also said that Calvin Jacobson suggested the city extend the main down the service road at least to the cardtrol. The council will discuss the request and get back to Jesse.

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the March 9, 2021 regular city council meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Neil Weaving, seconded by Al Colemer to approve the city auditor's report including the March financial statements, delinquency report and payment of the bills. Motion carried.

Trish Pearson reported that we had issues with our door entry system for several weeks. DRN worked on the problem numerous times. They finally determined that the backup battery was dead and caused the system to glitch. It is now corrected and the city will not be charged for the battery.

Pearson asked the council to consider setting aside a part of the cemetery for additional Potter's Field plots. We have one section with three unidentified plots, but two of the plots are slightly sunken and could have unmarked burials. The third plot was recently requested by Price Funeral Chapel for a person who passed away with no funds or family. Attorney Lyle Bopp said he would contact Health and Human Services to see if a burial plot is included when they pay for a pauper's burial services. We will wait for a response before determining if we should set aside any additional plots.

Attorney Bopp stated he did not have much to report. He has been working on the ordinances review of chapters one and eight. He did get a formal complaint from a resident about barking dogs. This has been an ongoing issue. After conferring with the sheriff's office, he sent a certified letter to the dog owner. If the problem persists, the city will take steps to have the dogs removed.

Paige Cary reported on activities for the month. She noted that Stock Growers Bank has completed their Renaissance project. She asked that the council approve the project. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Luke Anderson to approve the finalization of the Renaissance project for Stock Growers Bank. Motion carried.

Paige said that the Jacobson office building has been sold to Jesse and Anna Mastenbrook. Anna will be moving her salon into that space and renting two spaces. Paige wants to offer them one of our business incentives. She asked if this should be considered an expansion of an existing business or a new business. The council said it should be a new business, as the building will be used as a commercial rental property.

Paige got a request from a person who purchased a property on Antelope Ave E. The new owner is a hobby dog breeder and wanted to know if she would be allowed to have more dogs than are allowed by our ordinances. The property is zoned agriculture. Dog kennels and breeders are allowed as a conditional use in that zoning. A permit would need to be applied for and granted before a kennel or breeding facility would be allowed. Paige will pass the information along to the owner. Paige also asked that the council reconsider the number of pets when reviewing our ordinances. Many young people consider their pets as family and take very good care of them. She has received a number of comments on the restrictions.

In old business, Luke Anderson completed his review of chapters one and eight of the ordinances. Lyle is reviewing them now and will bring recommendations to the next meeting. Luke will start working on chapter two.

In new business, Mayor Bopp stated he was approached by the Food Pantry about the possibility of renting our conference room for the pantry. They need to move out of their current space and are looking for options. The council did not want to give up our conference room space. Several suggestions were made for alternative space.

Mayor Bopp noted that he approved a building permit for Rachel Olson to add egress windows in her home.

Sargent Central School is looking to add an approach off the highway west of the school. Kevin will try to get more information.

The council revisited the earlier request made by Jesse Mastenbrook for water service. Luke thinks we should look at supplying the entire frontage road with water and eventually sewer. We can't get the full project complete on Jesse's time line though.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to start the bidding process to tie in the water main on 3rd street over to the Mastenbrook property via the service road while taking into account future water expansion to the golf course. Roll call vote Anderson aye, Colemer, aye, Weaving abstain, Stenvold absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to contact Interstate Engineering to look into expanding water service from the Mastenbrook property to the golf course and adding in fire hydrants as necessary. Roll call vote Anderson, aye, Colemer, aye, Weaving aye, Stenvold absent. Motion carried.

Paige mentioned that Caleb Nelson's yard needs some seeding where the water line was torn up last year. Trish will prepare a work order.

The council revisited Cindy Klapperich's request for sponsorship. The council agreed it is a good program and can benefit the city. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to sponsor fully five people to attend the Lead Local program in July. Roll Call Vote Colemer aye, Anderson, aye, Weaving, aye, Stenvold absent. Motion carried.

Notices: Spring Cleanup Day is Monday, April 26. The Pet Clinic is Wednesday May 5, 2021 from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor