

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
February 11, 2020

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Al Colemer and Neil Weaving. Luke Anderson and John Stenvold were absent. Also attending were Trish Pearson, Paige Cary and Lyle Bopp.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jesse Mastenbrook and Nathan Schlecht attended representing FCDC. They are in the process of purchasing the grocery store building. Their plan is to run the business as a subsidiary of FCDC. It will be overseen by a governing board and run by a manager. They requested assistance from the city by way of property tax exemptions. Their proposal is outside of the scope of our tax exemption program, but the council said they would look at ways to provide other assistance to support this vital business. The city will put together a proposal to bring to the next council meeting.

Mayor Kevin Bopp recessed the regular city council meeting and called the public hearing to consider certain street and alley vacations to order at 4:25. The council reviewed the petition and resolution. There was no one present from the community and the council had no comments on the petition. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the resolution to vacate as presented. Roll call vote: Anderson – absent; Colemer – yes; Stenvold – absent; Weaving – yes. Motion carried. Attorney Lyle Bopp will record the vacations with the courthouse. The public hearing was closed at 4:30 and the regular council meeting was reconvened.

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

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the January 14, 2020 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 January financial statements, delinquency report and payment of the bills. Motion carried.

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. Ironhide was on site to repair the DEF injector on the loader. We need to check the warranty status of the loader.

Attorney Lyle Bopp stated that he responded to Rick Hoistad's attorney with regard to repurchasing the industrial lots the city purchased from the county on the tax foreclosure. Hoistad's attorney mistakenly thought that the entire original 20-acre parcel was included. Bopp replied that the parcel had been subdivided and the city only owned a portion of those lots. He has not had a reply as yet. Bopp has not yet made the updates to the policing contract as approved at the January meeting. He will make those changes and present the contract to the county commissioners.

The council received a quote from Interstate Engineering to survey the city owned property at the landfill and lagoon. They stated that if we can wait until the snow is off, they will reduce the cost by \$500. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the quote and to wait until the snow is off the ground to get the offered discount. Motion carried.

There was no report from the sheriff.

Economic Development Coordinator Paige Cary reported that she has been working on the strategic plan, Pick One Campaign and the grocery store. She is checking on grants for a couple of projects. Five cats were re-homed last month. There are no funds remaining in the account to neuter any more cats, but one farm offered to take a few more unaltered cats. She also spoke with a representative from Ottertail Power about an electric car charging station in Forman. The recently put a charging station in Fergus Falls and thought Forman would be a good location for a station.

Trish Pearson informed the council that the CPA we have used to perform our annual audits, Versella Nelson CPA, is no longer doing governmental audits. She has spoken with Daniel Julson, CPA out of Wahpeton. He is interested in doing our audit. He will prepare an engagement letter to review at our April meeting.

Sargent County Emergency Manager Wendy Willprecht submitted a memorandum of agreement for the multi-hazard mitigation plan. She asked that the council review and approve the agreement. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Forman and Sargent County to participate in the development and implementation of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried.

The city auditor noted that she will be on a medical leave for the month of March but will be working from home to keep up with the day-to-day operations. Paige Cary and Anthony Fiala will fill in with anything needed at the office.

City Hall and Shop are closed Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of President's Day.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 6:00 pm. The time was moved up to accommodate existing conflicts.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor