

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
November 9, 2021

The regular 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 Trish Pearson, Lyle Bopp 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.

Deputy Wyatt Schilling was on hand to deliver the sheriff's report. It was a busy month with 77 hours of service including one arrest. He did not have any concerns for Forman as most of the calls were minor.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the October 12, 2021 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. Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the 2020 audit prepared by Nadine Julson LLC. Motion carried.

It was noted that the hall is in need of cleaning after groups use the facility. We do have a \$75 cleaning deposit requirement in place, but it has been waived for smaller groups and community partners. We will be enforcing the deposit requirement going forward.

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. Anthony Fiala tendered his resignation effective October 17, 2022, which will mark 25 years of employment. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to accept the resignation with regrets. Motion carried. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to advertise for the superintendent position effective immediately. Motion carried.

There has been a problem with the garage door openers at the city shop since the installation of the 8' LED lights. If the lights are on, the remotes only work if they are very close to the receiver. If the lights are off, they work fine. Trish will call Hope Electric to seek possible remedies for the issue.

Shay Walden will be providing a quote to replace the section of sidewalk on Cedar Ave at 348 Main and Trinity Church that had been previously approved. It is a 4' by 60' section. Shay hopes to get to the work yet this year.

City attorney Lyle Bopp has been looking into the cemetery plat as some of the plot numbering from the old maps is different than the newer maps. We may need to redo a couple of the deeds. Lyle said he still wants to meet with Luke and Neil about the ordinances to review what they've gone over and move forward with the updates. There are some lots coming up on the county auction that the city should watch and possibly bid on. Lyle did a criminal prosecution on behalf of the city. We should be seeing a share of the fine.

Sara Dux was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted her report. The council had no comments.

In old business, the council discussed reducing the speed limit by the school to 15 mph. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by John Stenvold to reduce the speed limit on 5th St SW between Highway 11 and on Green Ave W between 5th St SW and 6th St SW to 15 mph when children are present. Roll call vote: Anderson – aye; Colemer – aye; Stenvold – aye; Weaving – aye. Motion carried. We will order signs for both streets.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Neil Weaving to remove from the table discussion on the closure of Elm Ave W at Highway 32. Motion carried. The ND DOT has requested the road closed for both safety concerns and to bring the city in compliance with a contract in place for Highway 32 through town. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to reach out to DOT to get barriers to barricade Elm at junction of Highway 32 and at the east end alley on Elm. Roll call vote: Colemer – aye;

Stenvold – aye; Weaving – aye; Anderson – aye. Motion carried. Luke will contact Troy Gilbertson at the DOT with the council’s decision and arrange for the barricades.

In new business, Forman Township has offered their half of the red shed to the city for \$1,000. The maintainer is no longer in the building and the township has no further use for their half. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Luke Anderson to purchase for \$1,000, Forman Township’s interest in the red shed building. Motion varied. Lyle will check on the title before the city cuts a check.

The off-peak heat supply at the library no longer works. Both the main furnace and off-peak heat are 30-40 years old. Jeff Henricks recommended replacing both units and the air conditioner with an energy efficient heat pump with off peak propane supply. There is a \$2,600 rebate on those units. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Neil Weaving to purchase a heat pump with propane backup up to \$9,500 with a maximized rebate of \$2,600. Roll call vote: Stenvold – aye; Weaving – aye; Anderson – aye; Colemer – aye. Motion carried.

Luke Anderson’s appointment wit Sargent County JDA expires in December. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Al Colemer to appoint Luke Anderson to the Sargent County JDA for another 3-year term. Motion carried.

Mayor Kevin Bopp said he was contacted by Joel Heitkamp from KFGO. They are bringing their Morning Show radio program to Forman to spotlight our city on November 23. They will also be bringing a \$500 check for the city to donate to the charity of our choice. Suggestions included the Giving Tree and the Museum. Kevin will find out if they can split the amount. He will also work with their team to arrange some places to tour prior to the show including the museum and possibly the Villas. The show will be hosted at the Hole in One.

City Hall and Shop are closed Veteran’s Day, November 11 and Thanksgiving Day, November 25.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor