

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
October 11, 2022

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Luke Anderson, Al Colemer, John Stenvold and Neil Weaving. Also attending were Trish Pearson, Sara Dux, Lyle Bopp, Deputy Bryan Johnson and Donavon Hajek.

All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

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

Bryan Johnson reported for the Sheriff's department. He did not have the written reports to hand out, but Sheriff Paeper will forward them to the auditor when he returns to the office. There were several incidents in town including an investigation at the school and an incident at Deuce's resulting in an arrest. There were 17 hours of school patrol and some patrolling for the click it or ticket campaign. Councilman Neil Weaving asked Deputy Johnson if he could give the council additional information on what SEMCA does in the county and city. Johnson explained that SEMCA assists the sheriff's department in narcotics investigations and other criminal investigations and with other services such as ripping cellphones under warrants. He suggested that Weaving speak with Sheriff Paeper for additional information.

Donavon Hajek reviewed the city superintendent report and activities. There was no update on the city sidewalk project or the culvert under Main Street. The council urged Donavon to get the culvert done yet this fall so we won't have issues in the spring. Luke suggested he contact Landon Carlblom. The repairs and upgrades to the lift station will be split. The bases need to be replaced this fall as a hole in the base is causing a 25% loss. The pumps and control panel will be installed next spring. The siren is in the shop being worked on. It may be done by the end of this week. The hub for the blade should be repaired by then also. Donavon contacted Dakota Fence about breakaway posts for the radar speed signs. They didn't recommend the posts the NDDOT specified. Council said to go with the DOT requirements regardless and to get Dakota Fence/3D Specialties to put the signs in before the ground freezes. We are still having issues with the WIN-911 dialer. It has taken over the shop phone number so we cannot receive outside calls at the shop. Automatic Systems is addressing the problem. We have not received any updates from them on the PLC controller. Luke asked about the third stop sign at the Kwik Stop intersection. It has not yet been installed. We need to get it up, along with the signs at the next intersection to the south before the ground freezes. Donavon said the Sheriff stopped a couple of vehicles that came to a stop on the highway to ask them why they stopped. Apparently, they saw the trail stop sign and thought it was for the highway. It was suggested that we change out that sign for a much smaller sign. The water leak at the golf course by the club house was repaired. It was a minor leak they were able to repair without replacing the water line. The city emptied the dumpster at the Rutland Sportsman's Club. The club offered to pay \$200 for garbage pickup when the dumpster needs to be emptied. This will cover our time, fuel and waste disposal costs. Lastly, Donavon asked the council to bump Shane Swanson's pay for helping on the garbage route. Shane helps on the Friday route and is available to fill in on the Tuesday route, but it isn't worth his time at his current rate. Mayor Bopp said he wanted to keep Shane for Fridays and on call for Tuesdays but we don't need three people on the route on Tuesdays. He agreed that this job is worth a higher salary. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to pay Shane Swanson \$20/hour for help on the garbage route on Friday and on call for Tuesday when needed. Motion carried.

Mayor Bopp informed the council that an offer of employment was made to Cole Halmrast for the Maintenance Worker position and that Cole accepted the offer. His start date is Monday, October 31, 2022.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve minutes from the September 13, 2022 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 September financial statements, delinquency report and payment of the bills. Motion carried.

The office computer has been replaced and the old one needs to be disposed. It has little to no market value because of its age. City Auditor, Trish Pearson said she would be interested in purchasing the computer from the city. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer to put the computer in surplus for disposal at no cost. Motion carried.

City Attorney, Lyle Bopp said there is a new virtual meeting of about 25 city attorneys around the state and that they are working on ordinance updates. The deed to Martinson Home Center for the JDA house can be delivered now that the house is set on the foundation. The Forman Housing Authority sale and closing will take place on or before November 1. An additional partner has entered the picture and they are requesting the deed to be split, placing one parcel in one name and the other parcel in another name. Lyle also commented on the previous discussion on SEMCA. He noted that SEMCA is involved in criminal investigations only and nothing that would fall under city ordinances.

Sara Dux told the council that the space for the Food Pantry is coming along. The floor work will begin the first week of November and the Pantry hopes to be moved in by mid-November. Sara handed out notes and take aways from the conferences she attended and showed the council the new items for the welcome bags. The Vibrancy Grant is opening but there is an emphasis on winter place-making. We will be looking at the possibility of building a warming house for the skating rink. The statewide housing needs assessment was completed. The council discussed housing needs in the city.

In old business, Luke Anderson said he talked to Justin at the Forman Elevator about the news. He was not aware of any of the issues that Luke had discussed with Eric Paulson, who is no longer with Full Circle Ag. Justin was concerned with the complaints. The fans cannot be re-routed now until the bunkers are emptied in the spring. He did say that once the bunkers freeze and are tarped, they will try using only the north fans and will further address the noise this spring. Luke informed him that this has been going on for two years and the city will begin assessing fines if not addressed. Justin understood. We will keep working with them to get resolution.

Mayor Bopp had approved a building permit by Kevin Maly to pour an additional concrete slab at his home. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve a building permit for Don Krake to build a shed on his property. Motion carried. We were expecting a permit to come in for Trevor Dekker to put up a fence at his home, but we did not receive the application.

The council discussed how to handle pay for Anthony's services once he has retired. We will need his Class 2 Water Plant Operator certification for at least two years until Donavon can get his certifications. We may need him for other things that come up from time to time. John Stenvold said he would talk to Anthony and come up with a plan. The council proposed a basic monthly retainer and an hourly wage for anything above the retainer. Anthony's retirement party is Saturday, October 1, 2022 at 5:00 PM at the Hole in One.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2022 at 6:00 PM

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor