

June 25, 2012

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday, June 25, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Gregg Sprunger, Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, Mark Wynn and Philip Provost were present along with Attorney James Beitler, Jr. and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller.

Councilman Ron Dull opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor McKean gave the invocation.

On a motion by Mark Wynn and a second by Phil Provost, the minutes of the June 11, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Curt Wurster and a second by Ron Dull, the claims were unanimously approved for payment.

Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade PER

Ben Adams, Commonwealth Engineering, informed the Council that effective August 1, 2012, our new NPDES permit will require the City to treat for ammonia. IDEM has been monitoring it for the last 10 years, and it was hoped that the NPDES permit would allow a longer timeframe to bring ammonia limits into compliance. The schedule of compliance is very aggressive requiring a planning report submitted in 6 months, a design plan completed in 14 months and start to construct within 9 months after that. The project needs to be completed and online within 36 months or August 1, 2015. Commonwealth estimated in the master comprehensive plan, which is 5 years old, that the cost would be around 1.9 million to 3+ million for these improvements. Those numbers are no longer correct and Ben stated to expect them to be considerably higher. Ben submitted a contract for a preliminary engineering report (PER) to be performed. They will investigate several options of treatment that Berne would be able to use to be in compliance. If the contract is approved now they would be able to get a month head start on it and allow us some time in January to review it before submitting it to IDEM. It would also allow the City to submit it early in the year to get in line for financing options. The total cost of the PER is \$30,000.00. Discussion was held concerning the financial impact on the citizens. Ben stated that the financial impact would be something Umbaugh could determine. Mark Wynn made a motion to approve and have the Mayor sign a contract with Commonwealth Engineering for a Preliminary Engineering Report at a cost of \$30,000.00. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Wayfinding Signage Grant

Dave Baumgartner, President of Berne CDC, came before the Council to inform them that last year they applied for a \$5,000 matching grant for wayfinding signage. They received the grant and were able to put up five signs along the U.S. 27 corridor. They would like to apply for another grant this year and are asking the City to contribute \$5,000.00 out of the CEDIT funds. The Berne CDC will contribute \$2,500 and hopefully the Chamber will also contribute \$2,500.00. Dave stated that it might be easier to get it the second time, as OCRA wants communities to finish a project. This year he is hoping to get two wayfinding signs for U.S. 27 and then a gateway sign.

Curt Wurster made a motion to designate \$5,000 out of CEDIT funds for a match for a Wayfinding Signage grant thru OCRA and the Main Street Program. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Salt Bids

The Board of Public Works and Safety opened the salt bids at a meeting held earlier this evening as advertised. They were as follows:

	Street Deicing Salt	Water Softening Salt
North American Salt Co	\$73.15	
Cargill	76.62	106.64
Morton	74.79	103.89

The Board of Works recommends to Council the low bids of North American Salt Company for street deicing salt and Morton Salt, Inc. for the water softening salt. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to accept the Board of Works recommendation of \$73.15 for street deicing salt from North American Salt Co. and \$103.89 from Morton Salt for water softening salt. Phil Provost made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Annual Fire Contracts

Mayor McKean proposed that the annual fire contracts with six townships, Monroe, Jefferson, Hartford, Blue Creek, French and Wabash be increase by 3.5% for 2013. Gwen Maller stated that the total amount of \$51,783.59 be distributed to each township by their assessed valuation. Mark Wynn made a motion to increase the 2013 annual fire contracts by 3.5% and instruct Attorney Jim Beitler to prepare them. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

New Sanitation Truck

Gregg Moser, Sanitation Superintendent, came before the Council to ask permission to purchase a new sanitation truck. This would replace the 1997 Ford that has 190,000 miles on it. They would move the 2006 truck to the secondary position and it would be used for cardboard, compost and holiday runs. Ron Dull made a motion to approve the Board of Public Works and Safety's recommendation to advertise for bids for a new sanitation truck. Phil Provost made the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Street Closing List and Signage

Kurt Dailey submitted a list of street closures and temporary signage for the Swiss Days celebration. He stated that it is the same as last year. The list is as follows:

Street Closings

1. City Hall Parking Lot
2. Jefferson Street from alley North of Franklin to Alley South of Water St.
3. Fulton Street at Main Street
4. Hendricks Street from Main Street to Franklin Street
5. Sprunger Street from Main Street to Water Street

6. Behring Street from Main Street to Alley
7. City parking long by Chamber
8. Main Street from Brown Street to US 27
9. Baltimore from Water Street to Main Street (Fri/Sat a.m.)
10. Jefferson Street and Sprunger Street (Saturday a.m.)
11. Compromise, Sprunger, Water, Lehman/Baltimore, Franklin and Hendricks Streets for the parade Saturday night.

Temporary signage

1. NO PARKING FIRE LANE – both downtown alleys
2. NO PARKING ANY TIME–Baltimore Street, from Main to Water Street
3. NO PARKING ANY TIME–Washington Street from Behring to Jefferson on the north side
4. NO PARKING ANY TIME–Jackson Street from Main to Water Street
5. NO PARKING HANDICAP ONLY–South Side of Water from Sprunger to Baltimore St.
6. NO PARKING ANY TIME–Harrison Street from Main to Water Street
7. NO PARKING ANY TIME–Hendricks from Dearborn to Park Ave, Lehman from Main to Franklin Street (for parade)

Mark Wynn made a motion to approve the street closings and temporary signage for Swiss Days. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Board of Works Update

Mayor McKean stated that the only other item that the Board of Public Works and Safety discussed that hasn't already been discussed by the Council is the signage at the Park Pavilion. Ron Dull stated that there has been a problem with people walking into the pavilion to use the restrooms when someone has it rented and holding a private event. Permanent signs will be put on the outside doors of the restrooms directing the public to use the facilities at the concession stand by the little league diamond. When the pavilion is rented, temporary magnetic signs will be placed on the main doors to the pavilion stating that a private event is being held.

Mayor Comments

Mayor McKean presented Ordinance # 630 for its first reading. This ordinance fixes the salaries, compensation and benefit programs for 2013 for all appointed officers and employees and establishes clothing allowances for the police, police reserves and firemen. Mark Wynn made a motion to pass the first reading of ordinance #630. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Mayor McKean presented Ordinance #631 for its first reading. This ordinance fixes the salaries and benefit programs for 2013 of all elected officials of the City of Berne. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to pass the first reading of Ordinance #631. The motion was passed on a vote of four (4) yeas and one (1) nay cast by Councilman Phil Provost.

Mayor McKean submitted a contract from Wessler Engineering to conduct a one year inspection of the steel on the water tower. This is to detect any flaws or seams that are not holding. There is a one year warranty for the steel welding and a 3 year warranty for the interior painting. This should have been in the original contract for the water tower, but was inadvertently left out. The cost is not to exceed \$2,400.00. Gregg Sprunger made a motion to

have the Mayor sign the contract with Wessler Engineering for the inspection work. Curt Wurster made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments

Gwen Maller stated that the city water used in the month of May that will go out on the July 1st bills is unusually high due to the extremely dry and hot conditions in May. Many people started watering yards/gardens earlier than normal. She requested that the Council consider beginning the “sprinkling rate” season a month early to include May. Ron Dull made a motion to extend the sprinkling rate to May due to the extreme warm and dry conditions. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. They instructed Gwen put a note on the bills informing residents of the sprinkling break.

Attorney Comments

Jim stated that he and Shannon Smitley have been working on two properties in relationship to the unsafe building ordinance. There has been some progress and they will continue to work on it.

Councilmen Comments

None

There being no other business to come before the Council and upon a motion duly made to adjourn by Ron Dull and seconded by Phil Provost, adjournment followed.

William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer