

Board of Public Works and Safety
Berne City Building, 158 W Franklin Street
Wednesday, July 20, 2016
Minutes

Mayor McKean-Present

Curtis Wurster-Present

Ron Dull- Present

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 8:00 am in council chambers along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Secretary of Record Becky Sprunger. An agenda was posted at the door.

Others in attendance: city employees Kurt Dailey, Gary Nussbaum, John Crider, Police Chief Tim Taylor and Clerk Treasurer Gwen Maller. Guests included Swiss Village staff members Michelle McIntosh and Tammy Seffernick, city resident Houston Logsdon and area resident Amy Huser.

Mayor McKean called the meeting to order and verified a quorum.

Ron noted two corrections to the June 20th 15th meeting minutes, replace the word **Unlawful** to **Unpermitted** and also add that **Curtis made the second** as it pertained to the annual salt bids. Ron Dull made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections noted. Curtis Wurster made the second and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Request for the Annual Swiss Village 5k Race Michelle McIntosh and Tammy Seffernick presented their request for the Swiss Village 5th annual 5 K race to be held on April 8, 2017. Michelle stated that the route that involves closing County Road 150 has been approved by the County Commissioners. Residents impacted by the street closure will be contacted. Chief Taylor noted that that he has always had good feedback about the race. On a motion by Ron and a second by Curtis, the board approved the road closures for the 5K race on April 8, 2017 as presented.

Recycling Information Amy Huser presented the board with a handout of information she prepared about increasing recycling accessibility in Berne and the positive environmental impact of recycling. Four scenarios were presented. Discussion included the current options of recycling, which includes the County Transfer Station operated site located just south of the city limits. The location is only open Monday's and there are no evening hours. It was noted that City of Berne utility users already pay high rates and implementing any plan would raise rates. The board agreed that any option should include the Adams County Solid Waste receiving the recyclable trash so their volume and cost to operate would not be adversely affected. The board thanked Amy for her presentation.

Request for Street Signage at Buckeye/Behring Mayor McKean reported to the board that he had received a request from Berne Ready Mix for a pedestrian crossing designation on Behring Street at Behring and Buckeye because of safety concerns. In talking with Chief Taylor and his recommendation to have stop signs instead, Mayor McKean spoke to Kathy Subler at the Ready Mix and the Ready Mix was receptive to that. On a motion by Ron and a second by Curtis, the board unanimously approved recommending installing stop signs on Behring at the corner of Behring and Buckeye to the Council for their consideration.

Mayor asked Mr. Logsdon, 517 Compromise, if he would like to speak to the board. Mr. Logsdon noted that there continues to be a problem with the neighbor and alley access as he presented to the council at their July 11th council meeting. Mr. Logsdon is asking that the garden in the alley in question be removed immediately. Mr. Logsdon is also asking if the city would consider putting stone in the alley or what is the process to return it to gravel. The board advised him that we do not maintain alleys and stone is up to the homeowner.

Dave noted that from a legal standpoint the railroad ties are structures and we have many alleys all around the city that have structures in them. Dave advised the board that this is a bigger issue than just one alley and that the council will have a struggle to determine what is allowed and what is not.

Mr. Logsdon stated that he is concerned about safety and that the fire department could not access the alley behind his house to fight a fire because of the garden/railroad ties. Fire Chief John Crider responded that the fire department policy is to always fight fires from the street and never access an alley with their equipment. The street provides solid base which increases stability and safety for their trucks which is not true of alleys. Chief Crider added that with all of their hoses, it is never a problem hooking up to hydrants and fighting a fire from the front.

Alley's and this situation will be on the July 25th council agenda.

Request for Street Closing for the Berne-Off Mayor McKean presented a request by Pastor Kruchkow, who organizes the annual Berne-Off to have Harrison Street closed from Main Street to Water Street for the BBQ completion on Saturday, August 13th. On a motion by Ron and a second by Curtis, the board unanimously approved the closing of Harrison Street as presented.

Board Comments Ron asked about the progress of the former Dunbar property. Mayor McKean reported that the City has received a clean bill of health from IDEM and the conditions under which the city can develop the property. The property could be used for a city garage, which if done, would be wonderful for our city work force to have everything under one roof. Dave added that he believes there will have to be a stone pad installed per the IDEM requirement. Mayor McKean said that there will be applications to kill the vegetation that needs treatment. Also weed control will be sprayed in the stone areas.

Mayor McKean reported that the city received the quote for new sidewalk on the east side of the Edelweiss Flower Shop from city concrete contractor Matt Liter. Mayor said he will give property owner Sherry Krull their portion of the bill, which is 50% per the sidewalk program for commercial property. The sidewalk should be done in August and will be coordinated with the tree removal that has to also be done.

Mayor McKean thanked the entire workforce for their Swiss Days preparations. Mayor also noted that he Viet Nam traveling wall will be on display at the Berne American Legion Post during Swiss Days. Mayor McKean reported that he has asked for our Police Department to increase their monitoring of the area during this time.

On a motion by Curtis and a second by Ron the meeting was adjourned.