

September 12, 2016

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Gregg Sprunger, Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, and Mark Wynn were present, along with Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Katrina Armenta in place of Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Councilman Phil Provost was absent.

Councilman Gregg Sprunger opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor McKean gave the invocation.

### **Minutes**

On a motion by Mark Wynn and a second by Gregg Sprunger, the minutes of the August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved. **4 yeas 0 nays**

### **Claims**

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the claims were unanimously approved for payment. **4 yeas 0 nays**

### **Council Consideration of the 2017 Township Fire Contracts**

City Attorney Dave Baumgartner presented council with the 2017 Township Fire Contracts for Monroe, Jefferson, Hartford, Blue Creek, French and Wabash townships. The contracts are between the Board of Public Works and Safety and the townships, but must also be signed by the council. The contracts are for a 3% increase and should the Board of Works not approve the increase at their September 21, 2016 meeting, the contracts would have to come back to the council. Curtis Wurster made a motion to approve the 2017 Township Fire contracts between the Board of Works and the townships as presented. Gregg Sprunger made the second and the motion was unanimously approved. **4 yeas 0 nays**

### **Council Consideration of Promissory Note**

Attorney Dave Baumgartner presented council with a Promissory Note for renewal between the City of Berne Sewage Utility and the City of Berne Water Utility for \$300,000 due and payable November 1, 2021. Dave advised council that they need to approve renewing the note, which will then be signed by Mayor McKean and Clerk-treasurer Gwen Maller. Ron Dull made a motion to approve the 5-year renewal of the Promissory Note as presented. Curtis Wurster made the second and the motion was unanimously approved. **4 yeas 0 nays**

### **Attorney Comments**

Dave Baumgartner advised council that the revisions to the Water Ordinance will be brought to council at the next meeting. Dave stated that he has been working on this with Water Superintendent John Crider and Clerk Treasurer Gwen Maller.

### **Mayor Comments**

Mayor McKean reported that the SAGR system at the sewage plant has been working very well with the exception of the filter system. The phosphorus levels have had wide swings in the readings, being okay at times, then outside our permitted limits at other times. No one involved with the project, including a chemist who came to the plant could figure out why this part of the system was not working correctly. Nexom (formerly Nelson Engineering) who installed the system, researched why there is a problem now and what has changed. By studying the filter company's specs, it was concluded that the company made unapproved changes to the filters that altered their efficiency, and were causing our phosphorus levels to exceed our NPDES permit. Several weeks ago, representatives from SAGR and Nexom Engineering came to the plant and made the appropriate changes in the filters. Mayor said he is glad to report that readings have been consistent ever since and well below our NPDES permit limit for phosphorus. Per Dave, the system has a two year warranty, but it is still good news that this issue has been resolved.

The Mayor reported the temporary fencing still has not been removed at the former Dunbar site. He has instructed Shannon Smitley to contact Bill Zahn, the demolition contractor, to see if he can get the fencing removed, and to also advise the fencing company that we will remove the fencing ourselves if they do not remove it.

The Mayor updated the council on the extended hour of operation at the recycle center located at Simon Mfg. Adams County Solid Waste reported that with the additional hour, 10 cars came through the first Monday and 8 cars on the second Monday. Mayor McKean said he hopes this will continue to grow so the extended hour will continue.

Mayor McKean also reminded council of the upcoming Lehman Park Harvest Festival. Mayor said he has seen it advertised around town and gave his well wishes for a successful festival.

### **Council Comments**

Councilman Ron Dull expressed his concern of a house on the corner of Jackson and Franklin Streets in Berne with tall grass. Mayor said he would have Becky call the Berne Police Department to have an officer inspect the property and measure the grass.

Councilman Curtis Wurster also informed council Park Board Member Missy Smitley has sent fliers out advertising for the Lehman Park Harvest Festival and that they will begin serving lunch at 11:30 A.M. Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

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William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer