

September 25, 2017

The Common Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, September 25, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Council President Gregg Sprunger led the meeting in Mayor McKean's absence. Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, and Philip Provost were present, along with Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Mark Wynn came after the minutes were approved.

Council President Gregg Sprunger, opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation.

Minutes

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the minutes of the September 11, 2017 meeting were approved with a vote of four (4) yeas and zero (0) nays.

Claims

On a motion by Curtis Wurster and a second by Phil Provost, the claims were unanimously approved for payment.

Ordinance #696

Ordinance #696 was presented for Council consideration. This ordinance regulates traffic within the City of Berne by amending Chapter 73, Schedule II of the Berne City Code by modifying the stop intersection at Berne and Behring Streets from a four way stop to an all-way stop intersection. This modification needs to be done since a portion of Berne street has been vacated due to the Smith Brothers of Berne expansion. Traffic on Berne Street proceeding easterly will come to a complete stop as well as traffic proceeding northerly or southerly on Behring Street shall also come to a complete stop. Phil Provost made a motion to introduce Ordinance #696 by short title modifying Chapter 73, Schedule II of the City Code by changing a four-way stop to an all-way stop at Berne and Behring streets. Ron Dull made the second and the motion was unanimously passed. Curtis Wurster made a motion to waive and suspend the rules and procedures in order to adopt an ordinance at the meeting it was introduced. Mark Wynn made the second and the motion was passed unanimously. Ron Dull made a motion to adopt Ordinance #696 to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of Berne and Behring Streets. Mark Wynn made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Industrial Park Wayfinding Signage

Gregg Sprunger informed the Council that FCC (Adams) approached the Mayor with a request for a wayfinding sign for FCC so that their trucks and others could easily find their plant. After considering their request, it was felt that all industries should be represented on a sign leading into the industrial park. The Baldus Company, who designed all the gateway signs leading in to Berne, was contacted and they submitted a proposal for two different signs. One of the signs was a 12'x 9' landscape version and the other was a 5'4" x 12' vertical version. It was determined that the vertical version was a better fit for the City. The sign is going to be placed at the corner of U.S. 27 and Parr Road in the City's right-of-way. Since John Kirchoffer owns a billboard at that corner he was contacted about the new sign and gave his approval. His large sign is grandfathered in the City of Berne signage ordinance until 2022 at which time it must be removed or modified to conform with the ordinance. The Industrial Park signage request was brought to the Board of Public Works and Safety at their last meeting and they made a recommendation to Council to purchase the vertical sign for a cost of \$10,780 plus \$1,800.00 for the concrete foundation. It was pointed out that the quote showed the landscape dimensions, but the cost was for a vertical sign. Dave stated that he would contact the company and get a corrected quote. Phil Provost and Mark Wynn stated they would be in favor of a partnership with the industries in which they would contribute to some of the expense of the sign. Phil Provost made a motion to table the request until more information is received. Mark Wynn made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

Attorney Comments

Attorney Dave Baumgartner stated that all the deeds for easement along Parr Road for the Parr Road improvement project have been signed and recorded.

Dave reported that a concerned citizen came before the Board of Public Works and Safety about two properties that have trash, scrap metal and junk in their yards. Dave stated that a letter had been delivered to the residents asking them to clean up the properties under the City's nuisance ordinance. However, because the ordinance deals more with weeds and tall grass, the Board of Works asked Dave to review the ordinance and bring his recommendations back to the board that will more specifically address the condition of properties in Berne. The revised Ordinance will then be brought to the Council for their review and consideration.

Councilmen Comments

Councilman Ron Dull asked that since the old Dunbar building is down, if the intersection at Dearborn and Fulton streets needs a stop sign. It was decided that Chief Taylor and Kurt Dailey need to look at it and report back.

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

William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer