

February 25, 2019

The Common Council met with Mayor William McKean for a regular meeting on Monday February 25, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Councilmen Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, Mark Wynn and Philip Provost were present, along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Council president Gregg Sprunger was absent.

Councilman Phil Provost opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor McKean gave the invocation.

Mayor McKean expressed his condolences to Council President Gregg Sprunger in the passing of his mother earlier this afternoon.

When asked by Mayor McKean, Councilman Ron Dull updated the Council in regard to his son and city employee, Drew Dull and wife Julie, whose son was stillborn this past weekend. Mayor McKean expressed condolences to the family on behalf of the City Council and employees.

### **Minutes**

On a motion by Mark Wynn and a second by Phil Provost, the minutes of the February 11, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

### **Claims**

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

### **Downtown Merchant Tree Removal Request**

Mayor McKean informed the Council that Arlene Amstutz, representing the Downtown Merchants, came before the Board of Public Works and Safety at their last meeting requesting that the City remove the trees and grates in the downtown area and repair the sidewalks. At the Board of Works meeting, Arlene stated that the trees attract birds which leave droppings that are unsightly and unsanitary and the grates around the trees have become uneven and are a trip hazard.

As Tree Board president, Jerry Walker told the council that he supports the removal of the trees and grates as a safety issue. He stated that as they have done in the past, the Tree Board will take the name plates honoring individual tree donors and display them next to the existing donor post located in the city municipal parking lot on the west side of the Berne Chamber of Commerce building. Upon the Board of Works recommendation, Ron Dull made a motion to have the City remove the trees and grates and replace the cement in the downtown area. Phil Provost made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

### **Police Department Request for Upgrade of Wiring and Internet Security**

At the last Board of Public Works and Safety meeting, Police Chief Tim Taylor, Assistant Chief Jim Newbold, and Mike Brown and Shane Rekeweg, Adams County IT representatives, came before the Board requesting an upgrade to the police department's communications infrastructure system, along with a quote from Wired Communications, LLC. At that time, the board recommended that they come before the council to present the request. All were in attendance tonight. Chief Taylor presented the council with pictures of the jumble of wires going into their server. He stated that the system needs to be rewired and organized and the EMS network and Police network need to be separated. Even though the networks would be separate, they would still be in the same locked cabinet. Mr. Mike Brown submitted a quote from Wired Communications for \$43,451.00 for the work. Councilman Mark Wynn asked why the City would not seek three quotes for a project this size. Dave Baumgartner stated that according to the City's purchasing policy, Ordinance 627, the quote can be accepted on the open market with the Purchasing Agency, which is the council's approval.

Mr. Brown stated that he has had experience with other companies that do this type of work and in his opinion, Wired Communications is the best in their field. Mr. Brown stated that Wired Communications does extensive testing at all access points

and wiring security which he feels other companies do not do because the testing equipment is so expensive. Mr. Brown stated that he has not had any problems when Wired Communications does the work. Per Mr. Brown, Wired Communications is based out of Fort Wayne, with locations in South Bend and Indianapolis Indiana, and Georgia. Councilman Ron Dull stated that he works with Frontier and has seen poor installations like the photos Chief shared and he also seen things done the right way. He asked what the down time would be for this project. Mr. Brown stated that the downtime would be minimal, with the cutover being done over a weekend. Mr. Brown also said that the Adams County IT department would help out the Police Department and not charge for any labor or support, only for items that they would get invoiced for. Curtis Wurster made a motion to accept the quote on the open market from Wired Communications, LLC for \$43,451.00. Mark Wynn made the second and the motion was unanimously passed.

**Mayor Comments**

Mayor McKean reported that limbs and branches will be picked up this Friday. Due to the high winds this past weekend, there are a lot of branches and limbs that have blown down and need cleaned up. He also stated that the winter hours for the compost pad is 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and closed Saturdays.

**Council Comments**

Councilman Ron Dull reported that the Indiana Chapter of the Honor and Remember will have their annual Run for the Fallen on May 10-12, 2019 starting at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum and concluding at Circle Center in Indianapolis. The runners should go through Berne around 2:00 p.m. on May 10<sup>th</sup> and honor SPC Nick Taylor and SPC Sergio Perez, KIA on July 16, 2012 in Kandahar Afghanistan.

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

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William F. McKean, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer