

Board of Public Works and Safety
Berne City Building, 158 W Franklin Street
Wednesday March 18, 2020 8:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor Sprunger-Present
Ron Dull- Present

Curtis Wurster-Present

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in council chambers immediately following the 8:00 am Scoring Committee meeting along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Recording Secretary Becky Sprunger according to the posted notice.

In attendance from the City; Chief Taylor, John Crider, Kurt Dailey and Gary Nussbaum. Others present, Clint Anderson from the Berne Witness.

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

Approval of the February 19, 2020 Minutes On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the minutes of February 19, 2020 were unanimously approved.

IT/Internet Update Mayor Sprunger reported that after he, Gwen Maller and Becky Sprunger met with both ITI Technologies and Reboot for internet and IT needs, all agreed that Reboot's capabilities best fit the needs of the city building. Reboot has since been retained to provide those services.

COVID-19 Mayor Sprunger led the discussion on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and what that might mean for the city. Mayor Sprunger noted that press releases have been sent the Berne Witness and posted on the city webpage that city hall and all other city facilities, with the exception of the Police Department, have been closed to the public.

Mayor Sprunger reported that he had received an email last evening from Governor Holcomb's office with the Governor's Executive Order No. 20-04 meant to reduce and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The mayor stated that he had forwarded the Executive Order to Berne's elected officials and city building staff. Mayor Sprunger said that he is looking into all aspects of the current crises and how it effects the city and our citizens.

Dave Baumgartner stated that in the Executive Order, Governor Holcomb specifically addressed Public meetings and the Open Door Law as it relates to conducting public meetings during this time. By waiving many of the Open Door Policy mandates, meetings can now be held by having one member of the governing body present with the other members participating in the meeting remotely, which includes roll call votes electronically.

Mayor Sprunger stated that he will call Reboot following adjournment to see if they can help set up Monday's council meeting for remote access so council members can participate without physically being at the meeting. The Mayor asked Council President Curtis Wurster to be in attendance if the meeting is to take place. Clint Anderson of the Berne Witness noted that Geneva has already called him to ask if he could live tape their council meeting and the public could access the meeting via YouTube, which he said he could do the same for Berne. There is no charge to for the use of YouTube in this manner. Mayor Sprunger reported that he would inform the Berne Witness and the Decatur Democrat of any changes in the council meeting so they can cover the meeting accordingly. There was further discussion with no decision being made about taping the council meeting at this time since this is a

very fluid situation.

IT Licensing Agreement Adams County

Dave presented the board with the annual 12 month IT Licensing and Service Agreement between Adams County and the City of Berne as it pertains to the Berne Police Department.

Ron Dull made a motion to approve the IT Licensing Agreement as presented with Curtis Wurster making the second. The motion was unanimously approved. 3-0

Other Ron Dull asked about the progress of the Water Street storm water project. Mayor Sprunger said that they are moving along nicely, but the impending wet weather will slow them down. It was hoped they could have reached Jackson Street this week. When asked if the project was complete once it moved to the next block, Mayor Sprunger reported that laterals cannot be made and hooked into the system until the entire project is completed.

Ron asked if there has been much negative feedback from residences in the impacted work area, Mayor Sprunger reported that he has fielded several calls, with one complaint of a sidewalk that was damaged. The resident was assured that the broken part of the sidewalk will be replaced. The other complaint was when the contractor cut back a homeowner's tree branch that extended out over the street and hindered their work. The resident said they left branches hanging loose and did a poor job. Commonwealth's onsite inspector addressed the situation to the homeowner's satisfaction.

With nothing further to discuss and on a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the meeting was adjourned.