

Board of Public Works and Safety
Berne City Building, 158 W Franklin Street
Wednesday May 20 8:00 am
Minutes

Mayor Sprunger-Present
Ron Dull- Present

Curtis Wurster-Present

The Board of Public Works and Safety met on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 in council chambers along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Recording Secretary Becky Sprunger according to the posted notice.

In attendance from the City; Clerk Treasurer Gwen Maller, Chief Taylor, Water Superintendent John Crider, Work Force Manager Kurt Dailey and Street Superintendent Gary Nussbaum along with Jeff Sprunger, President of the Berne Pool Board and board member Mitch Simon.

Attending using GoToMeeting, Rob Weaver, WPGW; Clint Anderson, Berne Witness and Andrew Keel, Keel Investment Team.

After opening with prayer, Mayor Sprunger called the meeting to order and verified a quorum.

Approval of the Minutes on a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the minutes of March 18, 2020 MAFCO Scoring meeting were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Curtis Wurster and a second by Ron Dull, the minutes of the regular March 18, 2020 Board of Public Works and Safety meeting were unanimously approved.

Berne Pool Mayor Sprunger informed those present that at the May 11th council meeting, the council asked that the Mayor meet with Pool Board President Jeff Sprunger and Kurt Dailey to discuss the issues in safely opening the Berne pool for the summer as it relates to COVID-19. Mayor Sprunger, Kurt Dailey, Jeff Sprunger, pool board member Mitch Simon, Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller and City Attorney met last week to discuss the difficulties and concerns related to COVID-19 and operations at the pool. The consensus at the time was to delay indefinitely the opening and to bring this to the Board of Public Works today.

Jeff Sprunger said there are so many CDC COVID-19 related guidelines for operating a pool and twice as many questions. If the guidelines can even be met, staff will have to be added to ensure everything is cleaned and number of people allowed in the pool at one time and for length of time will have to be enforced. City Attorney Dave Baumgartner added that it is not only cleaning, but sanitizing everything, the frequency needed in that process, and enforcing social distancing. Current staff could not handle those additional tasks.

Mitch Simon said that another problem is the question of if the South Adams Youth baseball League, or Lehman Park playground are allowed to open, but the pool is not. Mitch said that makes no sense to him since the pool, with the chlorine, is a safer environment than kids playing on a ball field or on equipment in the park. But he also realizes that the added CDC guidelines will cost more money and does it make sense.

Additional discussion by all members of the both boards continued concerning staffing, safety and costs. Gwen Maller, Clerk Treasurer expressed concerns that with a shortened season, would there be

enough season ticket sales, especially if the Swim Club has a shortened season to keep financial losses at a minimum.

Ron Dull asked what the feeling was among the pool board members and is there a plan in place that would analyze the cost and measures that need to be taken using the assumption that the pool will open. He would like to see that so there can be a real analysis of what is and is not feasible.

Mayor Sprunger asked both Jeff and Mitch to get with their board and formulate a plan for opening, costs and measures that need to be taken, and bring that back to the Board of Works. If necessary, a special meeting can be called.

When asked by Ron Dull as to whether the Board of Public Works makes the decision to open the pool or council, Dave advised that while it is within the authority of the Board of Public Works and Safety to make the determination of when or whether the pool open, but they also can make a recommendation to council. Both Ron and Curtis also agreed with making a recommendation for council to consider.

After additional discussion, Mitch asked that the pool board be given a little more time to have a comprehensive plan in place as to whether it will be feasible to open the pool and bring that back to the Board of Public Works and Safety. Mayor Sprunger stated that his report to Council Tuesday night will be that the pool opening is delayed, and the pool board will report back to the Board of Works with their plan. Jeff Sprunger indicated that he will contact the Adams County Health Department for a walk through at the pool for their assessment.

Mayor Sprunger recognized Mr. Andrew Keel, Keel Team Investments, who joined the meeting via GoToMeeting. Mayor Sprunger said he has talked with Andrew and also received an email from him which the board has. Mr. Keel explained that his company just acquired Briarwood Court Manor in Berne. He also stated that they own a number of other manufactured homes communities. Their company wants to provide each resident with a meter and have each member billed direct from the city. His company will assume any and all costs associated with acquiring the meters, installation and setting up to each home.

Andrew said that in doing so with in their other manufactured home communities, they have found that it has reduced water consumption by as much as 34%, has had a positive impact on the city's infrastructure, raised city water revenue and has given residents stake in their city.

When asked, Berne Water Superintendent John Crider informed the board that Briarwood has two master meters and the park owner pays the bills directly to the city.

Gwen asked Andrew how the city would benefit financially if there is a 34% reduction in water consumption. Andrew stated that if the City of Berne has a minimum water usage, more units would increase the number of minimum water rate users.

Dave advised Andrew that Berne's Water Utility Rate ordinance is in process of being amended and that several assumptions in Andrew's email to the board will change. When asked by Andrew, Dave said he hopes to have the Ordinance to the council by early July. Andrew did not see that as a problem as far as their plans are concerned.

When asked by Gwen about the turnover rate in their trailer parks, Andrew said that the annual rate of turnover at their manufactured communities is 4-5%. At the present time, there are several empty lots in Briarwood, and Andrew said Keel Team Investments has money in the First Bank of Berne ready to purchase more units. The goal is to have the park full within 2 years with their tenants owning their

own unit and paying Keel lot rent.

When asked by Mayor Sprunger, Water Superintendent John Crider stated that he is not opposed to extending individual meters to the park as long as Keel Investments use the materials provided by the city to meet standards and assume all of the costs, which Andrew said they will agree with that.

After hearing everyone, Mayor Sprunger asked for a motion to approve extending service to individual lots at Briarwood Mobile Home Park subject to council's passing an amendment to the Utility Rate Ordinance as discussed and a review of the requirements the city needs from Keel Investments by John Crider, Gwen Maller and Dave Baumgartner. Curtis made the motion and Ron made the second. Motion unanimously carried. Mayor Sprunger thanked Andrew for attending and sharing his plans and said that as the ordinance moves forward the city will be in touch with him.

Annual Township Fire The board reviewed the annual township fire contracts for fire protection provided by the City of Berne. Gwen stated that the city is asking for the allowable increase of 3% for each township adding that she heard back from three of the townships including the largest, and they did not have an issue of the 3% increase. Curtis made a motion to accept the 2021 Township Fire Contracts as presented and Ron made the second. Motion unanimously carried as follows:

<u>Township</u>	<u>2020 Contract</u>	<u>2021 Contract</u>
Bluecreek	\$8,770.49	\$ 9,033.60
French	\$9,220.98	\$ 9,497.61
Hartford	\$7,769.04	\$ 8,002.11
Jefferson	\$7,667.15	\$ 7,897.16
Monroe	\$17,398.43	\$ 17,920.38
<u>Wabash</u>	<u>\$12,001.29</u>	<u>\$ 12,361.33</u>
Total	\$62,827.38	\$64,712.20

Annual Crack and Seal List Street Superintendent Gary Nussbaum reviewed the 2020 crack and seal street list that board had prior to the meeting. The proposal from Pavement Solutions is at a cost of \$32,198.32 and the streets are as follows:

CRACK SEAL LIST 2020

1. Hendricks St. from Parke Ave. to culdasc
2. Windridge Trl from Hendricks St. to US 27 S
3. Glewood Ct. from Windridge Trl to culdasc
4. Colonial Ct from Windridge Trl to culdasc
5. Oberli St. from Hendricks St. to US 27 S
6. Parkwat St. form Hendricks St. to Village Way
7. Village Way from Parkway St. to SR 218
8. Yoder Strasse from Village Way to Westlick Strasse
9. Stucki Strasse from Village Way to cement
10. Alumni St. from SR 218 to Clark St.
11. W Water St. from Shug St. to CR 150 W
12. Clark St. from US 27 N to CR 150 W
13. Lane St. from Clark St. to Center St.
14. High St. from Lane St. to US 27 N

15. Nussbaum St. from Center St. to Clark St.
16. Center St. from US 27 N to dead end
17. Hoosier St. from Behring St. to US 27 N
18. S Harrison St. from W Franklin St. to Dearborn St.
19. Sprunger St. from Main St. to Parr Rd.
20. Linn Grove At. From W. Main St. to Clark St.

Ron made a motion to approve the 2020 crack and seal list with Pavement Solutions at a cost of \$32,198.32 and Curtis made the second. Motion unanimously carried.

Gary presented the board with an additional request to repair a section of Parr Road near the entrance to Berne Ready Mix. Gary explained that this is an area that is always needing a repair or stone added because of the heavy truck traffic. He contacted Case Construction, and they are proposing to repair the area by saw cutting the pavement, pouring a 10 inch concrete base, then adding 1 ½ inch of asphalt at a cost of \$6,078. Ron made a motion to approve the Parr Road repair work by Case Construction at a cost of \$6,078. Curtis made the second that the motion was unanimously approved.

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