

April 13, 2020

Pursuant to Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 by Governor Eric Holcomb in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the April 13, 2020 council meeting was held by way of a conference call using GoToMeeting. Mayor Gregg Sprunger was present at city hall. Council members were noted as present by Roll Call as follows: Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, Rod Mason, Kelly Amstutz and John Wanner. Also present by using GoToMeeting was Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller and City Attorney Dave Baumgartner.

Others attending by remote, First Bank of Berne CFO Kevin Gould, Rob Weaver, WPGW, Clint Anderson of the Berne Witness and City of Berne Work Force Manager Kurt Dailey. An agenda was posted at the front door and a link to the agenda was available on the City of Berne website homepage.

Council President Curtis Wurster opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Gregg Sprunger gave the invocation. A quorum was verified by the Roll Call of members.

### **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by John Wanner, the minutes of the March 23, 2020 council meeting were unanimously approved by a Roll Call vote as follows:

Curtis Wurster	Aye	Rod Mason	Aye
John Wanner	Aye	Kelly Amstutz	Aye
Ron Dull	Aye		

On a motion by Curtis Wurster and a second by Rod Mason, the minutes of the April 6, 2020 special meeting were unanimously approved by Roll Call vote as follows:

Kelly Amstutz	Aye	Rod Mason	Aye
John Wanner	Aye	Curtis Wurster	Aye
Ron Dull	Aye		

### **Claims**

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Kelly Amstutz, the claims were unanimously approved for payment as submitted by the following Roll Call vote:

Rod Mason	Aye	Curtis Wurster	Aye
Ron Dull	Aye	Kelly Amstutz	Aye
John Wanner	Aye		

### **First Bank of Berne CF-1 Filing**

Mr. Kevin Gould, CFO with First Bank of Berne presented an overview of operations at the bank's operation's center and their CF-1 application. Mr. Gould reported that the bank has dropped a few employees in the last year but

are above the projected 10 new employees on their application. Mr. Gould stated that there are several reasons for the lower employee count including closing the downtown branch bank and the use of certain software. Mr. Gould reported that once we are through the current pandemic, the bank anticipates hiring more employees.

With no additional questions, Rod Mason made a motion to find First Bank of Berne in substantial compliance for their annual CF-1 application and Ron Dull made the second. The motion was unanimously approved by a Roll Call vote as follows:

Kelly Amstutz	Aye	Ron Dull	Aye
John Wanner	Aye	Curtis Wurster	Aye
Rod Mason	Aye		

Mayor Sprunger thanked Mr. Gould and The First Bank of Berne for all they do in our community and wished them well in 2020.

#### **Attorney Comments**

Attorney Baumgartner informed the council that work is progressing on obtaining easements from South Adams Schools for the Village Way project. Dave reported that as the school raised new concerns, the city has addressed them. The school now has a revised easement that should address all of their concerns. Dave said he anticipates hearing back from the school in a week or so. When asked by Ron Dull if work could start on the Village Way project without the easements, Mayor Sprunger advised that the school board should be meeting soon, and although the project could start, the contractor plans to wait until the meeting. Dave stated that the school has concerns about the flow rate and the cost of cleaning out the waterway.

#### **Clerk-Treasurer Comments**

Gwen Maller stated that according to I.C. code 36-7-14-13 version b section a, “not later than April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, the redevelopment commissioners or their designees shall file with the unit’s executive and fiscal body a report setting out their activities during the preceding calendar year”. Gwen Maller presented the report for 2019 as follows:

#### **Commissioners:**

Randy Beer, President  
Marc Graber, Vice-President  
Nancy Scott, Secretary  
Gwen Maller, Treasurer  
Matt Lehman, Member  
Mitch Sprunger, Member

#### **Employees**

None

Expenditures

Supplies	\$ 65.23
Contract Services	0
Professional Services	0
Interfund Transfers	0
Total Expenditures	\$ 65.23

Revenue Received

Property Tax Received	\$ 931,137.45
Misc.	0
Interest	37,731.14
Total Revenue	\$ 968,868.59

Tax Revenue Fund Balance as of December 31, 2019 \$ 2,651,400.56

Outstanding Obligations Payable from the TIF District:

Redevelopment Dist. Taxable Revenue Bonds of 2017

Amount Outstanding as of December 31, 2019: \$ 3,000,000.00

Amount Paid in 2019: \$ 0

**End of report**

Gwen also stated that the financial reports for the first quarter ending March 30, 2020 were emailed to the Council today. In the process of working from home and at the office, the Revenue report inadvertently was not created. She asked the if the council had any questions regarding the Fund or Appropriation reports for the first quarter. There were no questions, but Rod Mason expressed his appreciation for the work Gwen has done during these extraordinary times.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Sprunger reported that Brackney has not restarted work on the Water Street project and the Mayor stated that he thinks they are waiting until restrictions are lifted by the state as it relates to COVID-19.

The Mayor reported that due to the ongoing pandemic, heavy trash pickup has been changed from the end of April to the first week of June, and shred day has been moved from May 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 noon at city hall. The media has been notified and the changes are on the City of Berne website and our Facebook page.

The Mayor also encouraged all citizens to take the time to fill out the 2020 U.S. Census whether it is online, by mail or by phone. As of this morning, the city response was 52.6%, of our total households.

Mayor Sprunger reported that he listened to Gov. Holcomb's COVID-19 Press Conference today and that Indiana might not reach the peak of the outbreak until sometime in May. The mayor asked our citizens to remain diligent in adhering to all of the safe practices that have been established as a result of COVID-19. Mayor Sprunger also thanked Rod Mason for his leadership at Swiss Village and he thanked

all of the people in the service industries that are working and who risk their health on our behalf.

**Council Comments**

Rod Mason thanked Mayor Sprunger for his words of encouragement and he is thankful to report that Swiss Village continues to be doing well as it relates to COVID-19.

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

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Gregg A. Sprunger, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer