

June 8, 2020

Pursuant to Executive Orders 20-04 and 20-08 by Governor Eric Holcomb in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the May 26, 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 confirming verbally 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. An agenda was posted at the front door and on the City of Berne website.

Others present using GoToMeeting, Rob Weaver, WPGW; Clint Anderson of the Berne Witness, Recreational Facilities President Jeff Sprunger; South Adams Summer Swim Team coach Andy Lehman; City of Berne Work Force Manager Kurt Dailey and other guests. An agenda was posted at the front door and on the City of Berne homepage.

Council President Curtis Wurster opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Gregg Sprunger gave the invocation and verified a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

May 26, 2020 Ron asked that the minutes from May 26th reflect the following corrections, page 1, correct Berne Pool Board President Jeff Sprunger to Berne Recreational Facilities President Jeff Sprunger; page 6 change Berne Swim Team to South Adams Summer Swim Team.

Ron also stated that the change he was seeking in the June 1 meeting pertaining to his motion on PPE's, in listening to the recording, Ron said that PPE's were added to his motion and at which time he verbally agreed with the addition.

Rod Mason made a motion to approve the May 26th minutes with the corrections as noted by Ron Dull. Ron Dull made the second. The motion was unanimously approved by a Roll Call vote 5-0

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

June 1, 2020 On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the minutes of the June 1st meeting were unanimously approved by a Roll Call vote 5-0

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

Claims

Kelly Amstutz made a motion to approve the claims and Rod Mason made the second. The motion was unanimously approved with the following Roll Call vote 5-0:

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

Rod Mason

Aye

Presentation of the Redevelopment Commission Report Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller explained to the council that the Berne Redevelopment Commission met last Friday to fulfill a state requirement that mandates that a redevelopment commission must meet and determine if the TIF district has excess valuation or no excess valuation. At their meeting, the commission unanimously approved the 2020 TIF five year plan as presented and instructed President Randy Beer to sign the letter stating the RDC has no excess valuation. Gwen stated that she has sent copies of that letter to Wabash and Monroe townships, South Adams Schools, Adams County Solid Waste District, and the auditor, which are the impacted taxing units in the City of Berne TIF district. The letter will also be posted on Gateway. The state statute also mandates that this information is presented to the council prior to the next budget process. The Redevelopment Commission has a “wish list” for the five year plan that includes a new furnace and duct work at the City of Berne owned South Adams Senior Center at an estimate cost of \$40,000; the 3 million dollar bond issue for Smith Brothers of Berne; a new garage at the former Dunbar property at an estimated cost of two and half million dollars and must be started within the next year because of the grant the city received to clean up the brownfield and streetscaping at an estimated cost of 1.5 million dollars. With these projects, the TIF money will stay in the TIF District.

Ordinance 726

City Attorney Dave Baumgartner explained to the council that Ordinance 726 is the City of Berne Utility ordinance, and because of Indiana House Bill 1165, which no longer allows a city to hold the landowner responsible for unpaid water bills, this ordinance is being amendment to include a deposit requirement when setting up any new service.

Rod Mason made a motion to introduce Ordinance 726 by short title: An Ordinance Of The Common Council Of The City Of Berne, Indiana Amending Restating Chapter 53 Of The Berne City Code Including Provisions Regarding The Use Of And Services Rendered By the Waterworks System of The City Of Berne And Charges Therefor and to consider approving the ordinance at the June 22nd council meeting. John Wanner made the second.

Discussion was held about the terms of a deposit in the revised ordinance, including the city holding the deposit until the renter or person buying the house on contract leaves. Gwen stated that in checking with other cities in Indiana, many have the same policy.

With no further discussion, Mayor Sprunger asked for a Roll Call vote on the motion as presented by Rod and with a second by John: The motion was unanimously approved with the following Roll Call vote 5-0

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

Status of the South Adams Summer Swim Team

Mayor Sprunger noted that the following have joined the meeting using GoTOMeeting; Berne Recreational Facility President Jeff Sprunger, along South Adams Summer Swim Club coach Andy Lehman. In opening up the status of the SA Summer Swim Club, Mayor Sprunger noted that the council had received the guidelines and procedures in their packets that will be considered tonight and are as follows:

South Adams Summer Swim Club COVID-19 Practices and Procedures

For Practices and Meets:

1. All COVID-19 practices and procedures that are required of the Berne Pool will be followed.
2. Anyone who has been in contact with someone who has a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 within the past two weeks of any given practice or meet will not be allowed to attend practices or meets until two weeks have passed.
3. Anyone who has had a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit within the past three days of any practice or meet will not be allowed to participate in any practices or meets that fall within a three day window of being fever free.
ALL practices will conclude at 10:30 AM so that the Berne Pool staff has adequate time to sanitize prior to the opening of the pool.

For Practices:

4. Swimmers must change at home before and after practices--changing will not be allowed in the bathhouses.
5. Parents are not permitted on deck during the 9 and up practices.
6. Parents will be assigned seating areas for the younger practices. Pool furniture will not be used.
7. Swimmers may not bring anything to practice, other than a towel and equipment; towels will be spaced out, so they are not close together.
8. Swimmers should have a net bag and should take practice gear home with them each day and bring it back to practice.
9. Swimmers will be placed 4-5 per lane. This spacing will keep over 16-20 feet between swimmers lengthwise and over 6 feet between swimmers width wise in the lanes.
10. Masks will be worn by coaches, and parents on the pool deck will be encouraged to wear them.
11. Bathhouses will be sanitized between practice groups.
ALL swim meets will be virtual meets. Only South Adams Summer Swim Club participants will swim at the Berne Pool. Times will be exchanged with other teams in our conference to determine placings for dual meets or meets will be conducted as time trials.

For Meets:

12. Swimmers must sit with their families around the pool yard to ensure social distancing guidelines are met. There will be no team camp.
13. During meets, spectators will be permitted on the pool deck only when their swimmer is competing. Spectators on the pool deck must follow social distancing guidelines.
14. Parents will enter the pool through the main gate and exit out of the diving well gate.
15. Only one heat of swimmers will be allowed behind the block a time.
16. Swimmers may line up behind the timing tables ready to go, with only two heats on the concrete. We will have rope and markings so that swimmers know where to stand, meeting social distancing requirements.

17. Pool furniture is not to be used during meets. Families will need to bring their own chairs.

18. Masks will be worn by meet workers following the social distancing measures put in place.

19. Sanitizing wipes will be used to clean the pace clock and electronic equipment used for meets, including stop watches, laptop, and printer.

Rod Mason thanked the group for the work they put into following the guidelines set forth in the last council meeting and for putting in the work to develop the plan being proposed tonight.

Ron Dull thanked Jeff Sprunger, the Berne Pool Board, and the SA Summer Swim Club for their work on the Swim Club proposal following the CDC, Indiana Department of Health, and the City of Berne guidelines.

Ron Dull made a motion to approve the South Adams Summer Swim Club COVID-19 Practices and Procedures as submitted and allow their practices to begin as soon as the pool is open.

Before calling for the second, Mayor Sprunger reported that he just received a text from a member of the media asking for a copy of the procedures and guidelines being considered to night, which will be sent at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mayor Sprunger then called for a second on the motion on the floor. Curtis made the second.

Discussion

When asked, Andy stated that the virtual swim meets are conducted using IHSAA required software and are standard for all participants. Times can be seen in real time adding to the sense of in person competition.

Rod Mason said he is thrilled to know that the kids can swim and compete in a safe environment, knowing that competition is great for the kids.

When asked by Mayor Sprunger about the use of bubble lanes, Andy stated that they will not use bubble lanes given the COVID-19 restrictions. They will use a beginner's lane and it will be for those swimmers who are not strong enough for competition but have advanced beyond the bubble lane. This will require a coach on the deck, and while not competitive, it will be beyond a beginner's level.

Rod Mason asked that if 4 to 6 swimmers are practicing in one lane at a time, how will the returns be handled and will they be in the same lane coming back. Andy said that it will be easier for the younger swimmers as they are used to doing 25 meters and will not be returning in the same lane. For the older swimmers, there will be no bilateral breathing, swimmers doing 50 meters will all breathe on the right side only, and then 50 meters all will breathe on the left side. When kids pass each other, they will be breathing in opposite directions.

With no other questions, Mayor Sprunger asked for a vote on the motion and a second on the floor to approve the South Adams Summer Swim Club's Practices and Procedures.

The motion to approve was 5-0 on the following Roll Call vote:

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

Mayor Sprunger said he had a question sent by text about the conference swim meets and asked Andy the procedure for them. Andy stated they it has not been decided if they can have a conference swim meet, but the South Adams club will not be attending any in person meet, so if there is one, it will be a virtual swim meet only.

Mayor Sprunger thanked Andy wished good luck with any meets and with lessons.

Attorney Comments None

Mayor Comments

- Encourage those who have not completed the 2020 Census to do so. The city response is about 70% to date.
- Normally the salary ordinance for both city employees and elected officials is presented to the council by the mayor. At this time, with conversations with Gwen, Mayor Sprunger stated that work will start on the budget first and depending how the money flows from property taxes, and local income taxes, they will have a better idea as to any changes that can be made to salaries. Two departments come out of the general fund as well as partial salaries for other employees.
- Encouraged citizens to shop and eat local and support local businesses that might never fully recover from COVID-19 restrictions
- Progress continues on the Water Street Project and the Village Way project. The sidewalk and curbing is in on Village Way and paving should start soon. Brackney has moved to East Water Street.

Clerk's Comments: None

Council Comments

Ron Dull thanked Jeff Sprunger for sitting through the long and sometimes difficult meetings to open the pool and for all he does for the community. Ron also thanked Andy Lehman for attending tonight and bringing a good plan to the table.

With nothing further to discuss, Ron Dull made a motion to adjourn, Kelly Amstutz made the second, and adjournment followed.

Gregg A. Sprunger, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer