

January 27, 2020

The Common Council met with Mayor Gregg A. Sprunger for a regular meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall according to the posted notice. Council members present: Curtis Wurster, Ron Dull, Rod Mason, and Kelly Amstutz, along with City Attorney Dave Baumgartner and Clerk-Treasurer Gwen Maller. Council member John Wanner came after the approval of the minutes.

Council President Curtis Wurster led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Mayor Sprunger offering the invocation.

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

**Comments from Citizens:** Mr. Rob Weaver, President and Owner of Portland IN radio station WPGW, informed the council that his station will have a mic at this meeting so portions of the meeting can be played on their radio station.

### **Minutes**

Council member Rod Mason asked that the minutes be corrected to show that Ron Dull not Rod Dull made a motion to approve the Uniform Conflict of Interest Statement and that Rod Mason made the second.

Ron Dull made a motion to correct the minutes from Rod Dull to Ron Dull. Rod Mason made the second. Motion unanimously approved on a vote 4-0

Rod Mason made a motion to approve the minutes of January 13, 2020 as amended. Kelly Amstutz made the second. Motion unanimously approved on a vote of 4-0

### **Claims**

On a motion by Ron Dull and a second by Curtis Wurster, the claims were unanimously approved for payment on a vote of 5-0.

### **Engineering Update**

Ben Adams, Commonwealth Engineering, City of Berne engineers, came before the council to update them on the status of the upcoming large storm water separation project on Water Street, as well as an additional separation project on Main Street. The preconstruction conference is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> and once the project starts, Ben stated that he plans to have bi-weekly progress meetings with the contractor to gauge progress and the impact to those along the project path and to keep the public informed.

A closing date of February 18<sup>th</sup> is set for the funding of project subject to the status of the city's ongoing State Board of Accounts audit. Ben stated that the even though this is a very large project, it did not trigger an increase in storm water rates. When asked by council member Rod Mason if the start of the project is being delayed by the weather, Ben responded it is not, but the delay is the timing of the audit and the timeframe in closing the funding, Ben said he would anticipate work starting soon after the closing. Ben stated that this project will be massive in scope.

City Attorney Dave Baumgartner reported that the last of the needed easements for the project were signed last Friday.

Ben also brought the Village Way Road improvement construction contract with Fleming Excavating at a cost of \$ 512,000 for council approval. John Wanner made a motion approve the contract as presented and to have the council sign the contract with Fleming Excavating for the Village Way Road improvement project. Kelly Amstutz made the second and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0. Ben stated that work could begin as early as February 10, 2020.

### **Signatory Authorization Resolution 2020-1-1 SRF Program for City of Berne**

Dave presented the resolution which authorizes Mayor Sprunger to make application to the State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF Loan) and to provide the SRF Loan program the information, data and documents pertaining to the loan process as may be required , and otherwise act as the authorized representative of the City. Rod Mason made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-1-1 as presented. John Wanner made the second and the motion was unanimously approved on a vote of 5-0

### **Attorney Comments**

Dave informed the council that the police department gets all their software from the county and he is in the process of updating the contract.

### **Clerk-Treasurer Comments**

Gwen presented the council with the Conflict of Interest form and asked each council member to fill out the forms.

### **Mayor Comments**

Mayor Sprunger informed the council that he would like everyone to meet once the weather is nicer for the purpose of touring our facilities to see how each department operates. The Mayor also updated the council that he is looking at an IT firm out of Bluffton to serve as a consultant for city hall.

### **Council Comments**

John Wanner stated that he really appreciated the training when he and others attended the Newly Elected Officials conference in Indianapolis last week.

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

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Gregg A. Sprunger, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Gwen Maller, Clerk-Treasurer