

City of Forman, North Dakota  
Regular City Council Meeting  
**August 6, 2019**

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Al Colemer, John Stenvold and Neil Weaving. Luke Anderson joined the meeting later. Also attending were Attorney Lyle Bopp, Trish Pearson and Paige Cary. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Mayor Kevin Bopp called the public hearing to approve a petition to vacate open at 6:03 PM. Al and Debbie Carton were present representing the Redburn's, who filed the petition. There was no one in opposition to the vacation. A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the resolution to vacate "all that portion of the East one-half of the street between Blocks 26 and 27, First Addition to the City of Forman, Sargent Count, ND, lying directly West of Lots 7, 8 & 9". Colemer – aye; Weaving – aye; Stenvold – abstain; Anderson - absent. Motion carried. Mayor Bopp closed the public hearing at 6:07 PM.

Cavin Berube and Nick Gludt from Moore Engineering presented the engineering update. There are serious issues with the assessment of liquidated damages. Moore drafted a letter of response to Knife River reducing the number of days of liquidated damages, but only for the Spring work. They did not reduce days for the fall work, nor did they address their failure to provide documentation to Knife River as required by NDDOT. They argued that not providing timely documentation had nothing to do with the assessment of damages. The City did not concur with their letter or their arguments. Mayor Bopp requested another meeting with the City, Moore Engineering, Knife River and the DOT to resolve this issue and close out the contract. We also addressed the engineering design flaw that has left three residents with flooding issues in their back yards and basements. Moore needs to take corrective action and hire a contractor to have the work done. They are still trying to figure out the best approach. The City let them know we expect this done before winter.

Sheriff Travis Paeper was on hand to continue discussion of a possible contract with the County for local law enforcement. After much discussion, the council thought that we could start with a level of 20 hours per month. Mayor Bopp asked the Sheriff to put together figures for a 25 percent contract based similar to Milnor's so we would have that to review as well. City Attorney Lyle Bopp asked if the City wanted to consider vacating all or part of the streets and alleys that are marked on our map, but are undocumented. Trish Pearson will put together a package for the council members to review and Lyle will draft a petition. Lyle Bopp reported that all of the dead or dying trees at the courthouse have been removed. He asked the Shade Tree Board to consider planting new trees next year. Trish will look into the Community Tree Grant. Lyle also reported that the county will be knocking down the house at 213 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW. He asked that the City work with the fire department to have it burned in place after the demolition. The county has been keeping the grass mowed on that property.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Luke Anderson to approve minutes from the July 9, 2019 regular city council meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the city auditor's report including the July financial statements, delinquency report and payment of the bills. Motion carried.

A motion was made by , seconded by John Stenvold to write off the utility balance due of \$625.60 from Forman Market. Motion carried.

The city reviewed the City Superintendent's report. Earlier, Al Carton had reported that he had been working with Anthony and Tom to find a water leak in the road in front of 360 Main Street. There were no leaks at the new curb stop or in the coupling from the 2000 sewer project. Unable to find the leak, they closed up the trench. Anthony will contact Rural Water to see if they can bring out their sounder to help us locate the leak.

Paige Cary reported on her many activities for the month including planning for the Main Street green space for the AARP grant and starting work on a volunteerism campaign. She presented her final business incentive plan and application to the council for approval. This plan will offer small incentives and monetary support for new or expanding businesses or business enhancement. The plan will be funded from our FDA reserves. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to approve the plan. Motion carried.

In old business, the crack sealing throughout town is complete. The council is pleased with the work. Striping on Main St. is waiting for the contractor's schedule. The windows for the east side of City Hall are in and payment approved. We are waiting on installation. Waverly's LLC will apply for the new business incentives. Luke Anderson gave an update on the grocery store. Luke and Kevin met with Nathan Schlecht, Austin McLaen and Jesse Mastenbrook and created a package to present to prospective grocers. FCDC is negotiating the purchase of the building and plans major renovations. They will offer a low cost lease-to-own to the grocer who runs the store. There are grocers who have expressed interest. Paige is also collecting information on running a community owned co-op as a backup plan.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Al Colemer to approve the 2018 annual audit as prepared by V.A. Nelson, CPA. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to approve the resolution to participate in the Sargent County Emergency Management Agency. Motion carried.

City Hall and Shop will be closed Labor Day, September 2, 2019.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

The council worked on and finalized the preliminary budget.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

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Kevin Bopp, Mayor

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Trish Pearson, City Auditor