

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
January 12, 2021

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Luke Anderson, Al Colemer, John Stenvold and Neil Weaving. Also attending were Trish Pearson, Paige Cary, Lyle Bopp, Deputy John Wold and Jesse Mastenbrook.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Deputy Wold reviewed the sheriff's report with the council. It was a quiet month, but he noted that there will be more activity in January issuing warnings for expired license plates.

Mayor Bopp introduced our newest employee, Leonard Gibbon. Council members introduced themselves and welcomed Gibbon to the city.

Jesse Mastenbrook is looking at building a touchless carwash. It will be all new with the building walls being constructed of a PVC type plastic filled with concrete. It will be 30 x 50 x 12 high with a single bay. The lot will have a large concrete pad and allow for plenty of access to the city's infrastructure. Jesse would like to see what the city could do to get a new business in town. Mayor Bopp thanked Mastenbrook for the presentation and said the council would discuss it.

A motion was made by Neil Weaving, seconded by John Stenvold to approve minutes from the December 4, 2020 regular city council. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Al Colemer, seconded by John Stenvold to approve the city auditor's report including the December financial statements, delinquency report, payment of the bills and year-end budget amendments. Motion carried.

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. Everything is going well with Leonard Gibbon. He is studying for the water treatment operator certification. Mayor Bopp asked if the city should pursue getting Shane Swanson certified as a backup operator. The council agreed we should make the offer.

Attorney, Lyle Bopp made a note that the sheriff's report service hours include all hours. Our contract specifically states that our contract hours be used on city ordinances. We should have a breakdown between city ordinance enforcement and county hours.

Attorney Bopp asked the council for clarification on the price of the Industrial Park lots being sold back to Rick Hoistad. The council made a motion setting the price at the December meeting and said that price stands. Jordan Weir has not been in the office to complete the sale. Lyle will continue to work on the sale.

Paige Cary reviewed her report for the month. One of the top visited pages and post is employment. It is very time consuming, but is highly beneficial to the city. She is doing a Working Wednesday spot on Facebook. The state approved the renaissance zone application for Dennis Nelson. We now have two open renaissance projects in process.

Cary asked the council to consider funding Forman Bucks like the City of Milnor does. We continue to sponsor programs and contests with monetary rewards and having Forman Bucks available would make things easier. Trish Pearson stated that we could fund the Forman Bucks through our Forman Improvement Fund, which is not supported through property tax dollars. The fund was originally built up with sales tax dollars with the intent of using it for programs that give back to the community. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold, to initiate a Forman Bucks program up to \$500 per year coming out of the Forman Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

Paige will continue to work with Amy Anderson to develop the Citizen of the Year program. She also applied for the Main Street grant for two picnic tables that could be placed outside of the grocery store. If we get the grant, Dakota Precision would make the picnic tables. The grant is 50-50 and can be in-kind.

Trish Pearson stated that the new siren has been ordered by Minn-Kota and will be installed early spring. We received a quote from Ottetail Power to supply and install the pole for \$845.15, which is considerable lower than the estimated cost. They will install the pole as soon as their schedule permits. Trish sent out an update from Minn-Kota regarding the possible solutions available to upgrade the siren at the fairgrounds and/or the siren on the water tower.

In new business, Mayor Bopp asked that the council take over the duties of the Forman Housing Authority. Other cities in the area have done likewise. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by Al Colemer Motion to appoint the city council members as the new members of the Forman Housing Authority Commission effective at the February meeting.

Mayor Bopp asked to re-visit Jesse Mastenbrook's request to obtain the lots west of the Kwik Stop to build a touchless carwash. After some discussion, a motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to sell Lots 3-4, Klefstad Subdivision #1A to Jesse Mastenbrook for \$50 each with an agreement to build within two years or they revert back to the city and to provide an easement to the city for access to the lift station. Roll call vote: Anderson – aye; Stenvold – aye; Weaving – aye; Colemer – aye. Motion carried. Attorney, Lyle Bopp noted that the sale does not provide an abstract and they will be given a quitclaim deed to the parcels. Other members noted that is it the owner's responsibility to locate and connect to the city water and sewer at their expense. The city must approve the connections in advance.

City Hall and Shop will be closed, Monday, January 18, 2021 for Martin Luther King Day.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor