

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
March 12, 2020

The Forman City Council meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Mayor Kevin Bopp. Present were council members Neil Weaving, Luke Anderson and John Stenvold. Al Colemer was absent. Also attending were Trish Pearson, Paige Cary and Lyle Bopp.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

There was no report from Moore Engineering.

Al and Debbie Carton were present to discuss the bids received to do the work on the front of the library building. They had three quotes: Chris Olson & Darren Beck; Wyatt Lyons; Enterprise Sales. Chris and Darren presented the lowest bid though it did not include replacing the two large windows. Debbie said Enterprise Sales recommended replacing those windows due to the water damage caused by continued leakage. Debbie asked that the windows be replaced with tinted glass to reduce glare, heat and sun damage to the books. The council agreed that the windows could be included in the project. A motion was made by Luke Anderson, seconded by John Stenvold to Approve the low bid from Chris Olson & Darren Beck and to include replacement of the windows; the total cost not to exceed \$11,000. Roll call vote: Stenvold – aye; Anderson – aye; Weaving – aye; Colemer – absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Luke Anderson to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2020 city council meeting. Motion carried.

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

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. The pump that was replaced in lift station #2 went out again. It had been in storage for some time and the bearing went bad. North Dakota Sewage Pump said that the bearings need to be manually turned at least once per month while in storage or they can freeze. We received a quote with three options. Repairing the old pumps is \$4,400 each. A new KSB pump, which is the brand we have had, was \$9,800. A new ABS pump, the brand they now carry was \$7,850 less a \$2,000 trade in allowance bringing the total to \$5,850. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Luke Anderson to purchase one new ABS pump with a trade in and to repair the newer KSB pump. Motion carried.

City Attorney Lyle Bopp stated that he has the revised policing contract ready to submit to the county as previously approved. He also stated that he has responded to Rick Hoistad's attorneys regarding the lots in the Industrial Park that the city purchased on the tax foreclosure. He has not heard back from them yet.

Sheriff Travis Paeper had called in his report earlier. They are patrolling the school every day and they responded to a couple of domestics. Other than that, it has been quiet in town.

Economic Development Coordinator, Paige Cary said she approached the County Commissioners about getting approval to install an outside water faucet on the county health building. The space next to that building is where we are developing a downtown green space from the AAA grant. We need water to make a green space possible. The Commissioners granted permission provided the city pay for the installation and the water used. A motion was made by Neil Weaving, seconded by Luke Anderson to approve installing the faucet and being responsible for the water. Motion carried. Cary further reported that her focus has been on assisting FCDC with the grocery store. She also worked on the Pick One campaign, community garden ideas, Main Street Summit, and working with the county JDA to implement a Career Builders program in the county. Paige was contacted by a person interested in building a shop/garage with an apartment attached. He would like to be located in the industrial area along the west side of Highway 11 on one of two city owned lots. He stated he would start out with some hobby interests and look to turn it into a business in the future. This would require a variance for the apartment. The council asked Paige to get more information from him regarding the intended use of the building and when it would become a business interest.

FCDC did not attend to discuss tax exemptions and other funding options to assist in the grocery store project. They are still working on the written business plan. We will add it to the agenda for next month.

In new business, Mayor Kevin Bopp brought up the need to start attrition planning for the water plant. City Superintendent, Anthony Fiala stated that it takes two years of classroom, training and testing to get the certifications needed to operate the water treatment plant. Luke Anderson stated that he is not against bringing an additional employee on board to start training but we need to make sure it can be supported by non-tax revenue. Also, he did not feel that we need to bring someone on immediately. Mayor Bopp agreed but urged the council to be looking at this within the next year.

Our Tax Equalization meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM. The regular city council meeting will follow immediately after.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor