

City of Forman, North Dakota
Regular City Council Meeting
October 8, 2019

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

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

Eric Paulson from Full Circle Ag introduced himself as the new grain manager for the elevator. He let the council know that they are in extended hours now for harvest and will be making as many accommodations for the farmers this year as possible due to the current conditions. The elevator put up noise barriers around the fans and have the fans on a controlled automated time schedule to help reduce noise. They are also pumping water to try to keep things as dry as possible. They are working on ways to decrease dust and particles. They will work with DOT to keep mud off the highway as much as possible and have plans to work on the lot to reduce or eliminate the problem in the future.

Cavin Berube reported on the trail project. KRM repaired the blinking light on Highway 32 but there is still on light on Highway 11 that is not functioning. Mayor Bopp worked out a plan with KRM for the culvert at the school and got them to agree to deduct the full cost of the culvert since they were unable to repair it. The culvert is still functional. Cavin proposed plans to correct the design issues that are causing flooding by the park along Highway 32 and issues with the ditch along 4th Street. He will be contacting Carlborn Construction for quotes and get the work completed as soon as possible. Work on the corrective work by the Kwik Stop is scheduled to begin this week, but may be delayed due to weather. Berube presented an invoice from Moore Engineering and a proposed amendment to the engineering agreement. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to table discussion and decisions to the next meeting. Motion carried. Cavin also had the CWSRF forms for two possible projects just to keep the city on the priority list. These project do not obligate the city to anything.

A motion was made by Neil Weaving, John Stenvold to approve minutes from the September 10, 2019 regular city council meeting and October 2 special meeting.

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

The council reviewed the city superintendent's report. The company working on the dome at the courthouse drove their equipment across the sidewalk on Cedar Avenue and broke the sidewalk in two places. Anthony had to go out after hours and pull them out with the payloader. The county said to keep track of our time and expenses and it will be billed back to the company.

City Attorney Lyle Bopp was at a conference. We will move his agenda items to the next meeting.

Paige Cary stated that the deadline for completion of the greenspace project on Main St. is October 15. She is laying everything out as best as she can so AARP can come and look at it next week. The forecasted snow is making everything a temporary layout. A lot more work will need to be done on the space next spring. Paige is continuing to explore options to fill the empty buildings on Main St. and is looking for options for a youth gathering spot.

Sheriff Travis Paeper joined the meeting. A resident had reported a suspicious vehicle and it turned out to be stolen. Paeper said the vehicle was stolen by a runaway youth from Wahpeton. Those involved were arrested. The man who was wanted in Fargo stemming from the NDSU incident was apprehended in Forman. The school went on lock down when they were informed of the man's presence nearby. Paeper explained that this was the school's policy and the level of lock down they went into probably wasn't necessary. It did turn out to be a good training exercise though and several items were pointed out where they can improve their procedure. Paeper said the drug task force has been active in the area and that it is, unfortunately, an ongoing problem.

The council reviewed options for traffic control by the Kwik Stop. The road is not a straight alignment and there is no physical boundary between the Kwik Stop parking lot and the road. These two factors make it difficult to determine where to place signage. Paeper said that it is not sufficient to place a yield sign in the

grassy area near 3rd St as it is already beyond the intersection and does nothing to protect kids coming off the path or traffic coming off the highway. Even though a sign may get hit, he said it should be placed in the gravel before vehicles get to the path.

Trish Pearson asked the council to think of projects that might benefit the city for the new FEMA grant that is now available. Applications are due December 20 so we don't have much time if we want to utilize the funds.

There was discussion regarding dogs and cats running around town. We are hoping to have more patrol available soon to address the dog issues. Paige suggested trying to get a special interest group of citizens to volunteer to round up stray cats and find placements for them. The council thought it was worth a try. Shelters are full and euthanizing is expensive. Paige will post it on the city Facebook page.

The council reviewed a building permit for Aaron Geiss to build a fence. The plan calls for a fence around the front of the property, which faces Highway 32. It will be a wood and welded wire type fence, 6' high. Since the property is in an agriculture zoning, there are not the same restrictions on fences as there are for residential zoned properties. There were no dimensions on the plans but the council agreed the fence would be appropriate as long as they stay off the stated easements and within property lines. The fence must be at least 40' back from the center line of the state highway, 17' back from the center of the gravel road to the north and at least 10' from the neighboring property. A motion was made by John Stenvold, seconded by Neil Weaving to approve the building permit as long as they stay within these lines. Motion carried.

AARP will be in town on Thursday, October 17 at 9:30 am for a Coffee and Conversation event at the Hole in One. They are interested in topics related to seniors and the community. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Our next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Kevin Bopp, Mayor

Trish Pearson, City Auditor