

### March 12, 2025

The regular meeting of the City of Bertram was held on the above date at 7:04 pm at City Hall. Mayor Scott Flaherty presided over the meeting. Council members present were Louise Hall, John Klimek, Bill Mulholland, Chris Price and Jim Unzeitig. City Attorney Kevin Shea absent.

Hall makes a motion to approve Consent Agenda. MSB: Mulholland. Aye: Hall, Mulholland, Klimek, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- Prior Meeting Minutes: January 8, 2025.
- Bills/Warrants for Payment. Mayor Flaherty did not get paid this month as there was an issue with the payroll software in January and his extra meetings had not been submitted.
- Nuisance Property update.
- Treasurer's Report. City Clerk Kuehl did not get the reports fully done as she is still learning this position.

Payee	Purpose	Amount
Alliant Energy	High Point	\$25.08
Alliant Energy	City Well	\$347.79
Alliant Energy	Streetlights	\$337.73
Casey Business Card	Fuel For Snowplows	\$188.93
City of Marion	Salt for Plows	\$1,393.03
IAMU	Water Membership Dues	\$680
Jared J. Vogeler	Operations	\$400.00
Louise hall	Mailbox repair	\$14.98
Neighborhood Insurance	Annual Insurance Bill	\$17,359
Office of Auditor of State	State Audit Periodic Exam Fee	\$550.00
Solutions Works	March 2025 server and backup	\$200.00
Verizon Wireless	Internet/Phone City Hall	\$98.80
Visa-Flaherty	Indeed	\$337.74
Visa-Kuehl	Taxbandits 1099 filing, Intuit payroll, Unemployment fees	\$236.12
Zach Vislisl	Sand for Plowing	\$193.62
Louise Hall	Payroll	\$92.35
Sheila King	Payroll	\$59.97
Sheldon King	Payroll	\$23.50
John Klimek	Payroll	\$138.52
Raven Kuehl	Payroll	344.24
Bill Mulholland	Payroll	\$138.52
Chris Price	Payroll	\$138.52
James Santee II	Payroll	\$616.43
Jim Unzeitig	Payroll	\$184.70
Tony Vislisl	Payroll	\$6.22
Stephanie Vislisl	Payroll	\$47.34
Zach Vislisl	Payroll	\$199.39
<b>Total Bills</b>		<b>\$24,352.52</b>

- 28E Agreement: Bertram Township (Water/Sewer). Mayor Flaherty read 28E agreement, stated it was started by Mayor Steve Carpenter and was drawn up by city Attorney Kevin Shea. Mayor Flaherty will get it to the township to review.
- Establish Strategic Planning Committee for the City of Bertram: Mayor Flaherty stated he has been having conversations with Fehr Graham about what is needed to keep the City moving forward. Suggested making a Strategic Planning Committee for the future growth with Citizens and Council. The committee would discuss suggestions about what is best for city future, annexing, water town, more utilities. The

committee would meet then present suggestions to the council. Bill Mulholland and John Klimek volunteered.

- Water Rate Reassessment 2025 (Alliant Energy vs. Water Rate Increase): Will discuss further at the April Council Meeting, previous Council Meeting 3% increase was suggested.
- Road Resurfacing Southbound US-151 from Mount Vernon Road to US-30. This is just an FYI.
- City Clerk Candidate Kim Moahan:
  - Price makes motion to approve City Clerk Candidate Kim Moahan. MSB: Hall. Aye: Hall, Klimek, Mulholland, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- Correspondence:
  - Hall: 2 mailboxes were damaged during snow removal, one in rustic ridge was less than \$20 to fix, others have not provided cost to fix. Hall believes city is responsible for replacing. Klimek suggested a letter written or form provided to City Hall for tracking purposes. Price suggested up to \$50 to replace and a limit of 60 days to report the damage. Mayor Flaherty will work on modifying a form that the City of Cedar Rapids uses for Bertram.
  - Hall: Bridge is scheduled to be reopened April 1, 2025.
  - Klimek: Do we know of any more controlled fires happening? Not currently.
  - Hall: Asked Klimek if he still has information on restrooms for park? Klimek stated he called the prior company, and they are no longer in business.
- Open to the public:
  - Penny Kula would like to know what meeting Mayor Flaherty attended that he was paid \$4,000 in January 2025 for. Mayors of the City of Bertram are paid \$100 per meeting that is over 1 hour, if the meetings are submitted. The council is paid \$50 per meeting over 1 hour for the meeting submitted. Mayor Flaherty meetings paid in January 2025 were for meetings he attended over 1 hour in September, October and November 2024. Mayor Flaherty stated he has had multiple meetings each month with many groups looking into projects from the Strategic Plan that came from Mayor Margy Wilson. Some of these are with Fehr Graham who will assist with finding grants for projects. Kula suggested making a list of 3 or so top projects to complete during his term.
  - Steph Vislislis wants to know if Fehr Graham has an ongoing bill. Price stated they do not. They get paid if we get the grant and they are paid out of the grant money as part of the project.
  - Penny Kula: Stated that when the meeting was moved to March 12 it was not posted and to please post it on the boards.
  - Penny Kula: Is the council discussing handing the city over to the county? Mayor Flaherty stated no we are not, and he doesn't want to see that happen.
  - Tony Vislislis: When and where are the minutes published? City Clerk Kuehl stated they are to be published in the paper (Mount Vernon Sun) within 14 days of the meeting and should be on the website roughly the same time. Apologized for the website being behind.
  - Dixie Long: Big Hangers by Leroys. Price stated he has brought it up and they should be removed.
  - Dixie Long: Worried about the streets, Mayor Flaherty stated he is looking into it and the biggest issue is funding.
  - Penny Kula: Stated that when they first bought the tractor the door was ripped off and accidents happen. Stated there is a learning curve and thought the snow plowing job was done great.
  - Steph Vislislis: Stated She heard James Santee hadn't been paid for January hours. City Clerk Kuehl stated she met with him yesterday and received all the necessary information for the payroll system and the council approved payroll in the consent agenda. Goal is to have payroll out by end of week or early next week.

- Hall Makes motion to adjourn. MSB: Price. Aye: Hall, Klimek, Mulholland, Price, Unzeitig. The motion passed by unanimous vote at 8:12 pm.

Raven Kuehl, City Clerk