

September 04, 2024

The regular meeting of the City of Bertram was held on the above date at 7:00 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 present.

Hall made a motion to approve the agenda as posted. MSB: Unzeitig Aye: Hall, Mulholland, Klimek, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- Sheriff's Report –
- Prior Meeting Minutes: August 7, 2024.
- Bills/Warrants for Payment.
- Nuisance Property update.
- Treasurer's Report.

Payee	Purpose	Amount
ABC Disposal	AUG SEPT OCT Trash	\$83.25
Alliant Energy	High Point	\$21.04
Alliant Energy	City Well	\$177.11
Alliant Energy	City Hall	\$47.56
Alliant Energy	City Park	\$21.21
Alliant Energy	Streetlights	\$518.04
Casey Business Mastercard	Fuel	\$172.45
Jared J. Vogeler	Operations	\$400.00
Linn County Engineer	Bridge Inspection	\$1,200.00
Louise Hall	2 Trash Cans City Park	\$59.90
Keystone Labs	Annual Water Testing	17.50
Orkin	Pest Control	\$52.00
Solutions Works	Cloud Server and backup August	\$135.00
Student Publications	Publications	\$184.68
That Girl Tree Service	Tree Removal Silver Maple	\$2,000.00
Thomas Schmitt Reimbursement	Chainsaw Maintenance, Graffiti on bridge	\$100.13
Verizon Wireless	Internet/Phone	\$95.00
Visa-Berry	Payroll Services	\$44.94
Visa-Kuehl	Iowa League of Cities Mayor Dues	\$30.00
Visa-Wilson	Credit	-\$15.33
IPERS	Payroll IPERS	\$382.46
Lisa Berry	Payroll	\$249.79
Scott Flaherty	Payroll	\$277.05
Louise Hall	Payroll	\$138.53
John Klimek	Payroll	\$138.52
Raven Kuehl	Payroll	\$196.22
Bill Mulholland	Payroll	\$138.52
Tom Schmitt	Payroll	\$1,344.79
Jim Unzeitig	Payroll	\$184.70
Vislisl, Anthony	Payroll	\$198.77
Vislisl, Stephanie	Payroll	\$47.33
Total Bills		\$8,641.16

	Beg fund Balan	Deposits	Disbursements	End Fund	Total Fund Balances	
General	\$694,576.03	\$266.83	\$18,058.69	\$676,784.17	\$676,784.17	\$676,784.17
Road Use Tax	\$209,982.80	\$2,825.08	\$0.00	\$212,807.88	\$212,807.88	\$212,807.88
LOST	\$258,630.57	\$4,167.66	\$0.00	\$262,798.23	\$262,798.23	\$262,798.23

Building Fund	\$17,812.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$17,812.22	\$17,812.22	\$17,812.22
Park Renovation	\$5,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
ARPA Fund	\$43,361.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$43,361.66	\$43,361.66	\$43,361.66
Water	\$22,274.67	(\$303.43)	\$1,658.44	\$20,312.80	\$20,312.80	\$20,312.80
Deposits	\$700.00			\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
Total	\$1,252,837.95	\$6,956.14	\$19,717.13	\$1,240,076.96	\$1,240,076.96	\$1,240,076.96

- Addition of Notary (Pay, Cost, Need) Mayor Flaherty wanted to know if anyone is a notary feels it would be beneficial to the city to have one. Council Member Hall stated she is a notary it is \$30 for 3 years and she will need to renew in 2 and half years. City will pay for renewal as long as she is available to be town notary.
- Board of Adjustments Variance/Resolution: Board of Adjustments met to discuss Terry Fett garage variance. The Board of Adjustments approved the variance. City Attorney Kevin Shea stated that the role of the council is not to provide a resolution or approve but to decide if they accept the Boards approval or are sending back to the board.
 - Price makes motion to not send back to the BOA and allow to go through. MSB: Unzeitig. AYE: Hall, Klimek, Mulholland, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passes by unanimous vote.
- Mike Smejkal new address would like to have 1850 Woodland Court. The cost to change is \$100 and will be paid by Mike at no cost to the city.
 - Price makes a motion to approve the new address of 1850 Woodland Court. MSB: Klimek. AYE: Hall, Klimek, Mulholland, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passes by unanimous vote.
- Cancellation of Zoom meetings service in favor of Microsoft Teams. Mayor Flaherty stated that will new email service, Microsoft Teams is also provided and having Zoom would be redundant.
 - Price makes motion to cancel Zoom service in favor of Microsoft Teams. MSB: Hall. AYE: Hall, Klimek, Mulholland, Price, Unzeitig. Motion passes by unanimous vote.
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- City Park Trash Cans: Council Member Hall stated that 2 trashcans at the park were split down the middle and had graffiti on them. She bought new ones and had Public Works place them at the park.
- City Email Update and SharePoint: Mayor Flaherty has set up emails for Council, Clerk and Treasurer, is also working on setting up group email. Need to have all files moved to SharePoint.
- Lisa Berry Announcement: Lisa Berry is resigning as City Treasurer effective November 30, 2024. The city will be looking for a new Treasurer. Mayor Flaherty wants to thank Lisa for everything she has done for the City of Bertram.
- Correspondence:
 - Council Member Hall At one point the city was looking at getting a Public Works Credit Card. Mayor Flaherty will contact Patty Webster.

- Council Member Hall: Has had quite a few people stated they are unable to get ahold of anyone due to no response to emails or phone calls. Mayor Flaherty asked for specific. Council member Hall stated the mayor and city clerk. HOA were trying to set up a meeting at city hall and were unable to get ahold of the clerk or mayor and Council Member Hall had to schedule 2 meetings. Mayor Flaherty stated that with the new email service we are working to set up better emails groups and processes to better serve the community. P and Z will have an email setup with Council Member Price and Unzeitig receiving the emails.
- Council Member Hall: Has been unsuccessful at getting ahold of Franks Tree Service to remove trees approved at August Council Meeting. That Girl Tree Service should have 1 tree complete by September 24 and the other tree has not been scheduled.
- Open to public:
 - Cindy Golding: Representative: Small Town Rural Iowa is her motto, and she is coming to city council meetings in her district. Wants to get opinions of how Freezing assessments and putting a limit on how taxes are raised. Would like to know pros and cons from residents. Currently the house is proposing a 3% tax cap on property taxes. Council Member Price stated that Bertram is not at the maximum property tax and was unaware that the state would put a freeze on raising property tax rates and will be difficult to keep up with cost of living. Cindy also wants people to advocate to the Iowa League of Cities to have equal representation for small town issues.
- Price Makes motion to adjourn. MSB: Unzeitig. Aye: Hall, Mulholland, Klimek, Price, Unzeitig. The motion passed by unanimous vote at 7:41 pm.

Raven Kuehl, City Clerk