

**February 1, 2017**

The regular meeting of the City of Bertram was held on the above date at 7:00 PM at City Hall. Mayor James Drahos was present and presided at the meeting. Council members present were Penny Kula, Robert Malone, William Mulholland, Stephanie Vislisel, and Steven Carpenter (by phone).

Malone made motion to amend the agenda to add Railroad Right of Way after Quiet Zone Report. MSB Kula. None opposed, motion carried.

The Linn County Sheriff was unable to attend.

Malone made motion to approve the minutes from the January Council Meeting. MSB (motion seconded by) Vislisel. None opposed, motion carried.

Malone made motion to accept and pay the following bills for February. MSB Vislisel. None opposed, motion carried.

<b>Warrant No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
135	Alliant Energy	City Hall Electricity	74.98
136	Alliant Energy	Street Lights	469.95
137	Alliant Energy	City Park Electricity	22.07
138	Alliant Energy	High Point Electricity	23.20
139	Mediacom	Phone/Internet	158.81
140	Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun	Publication Fees for January	57.97
141	IPERS	Payroll benefits for Jan17	129.90
142	Jason Houghtaling	Payroll for January	278.81
143	City of Marion	Inspection Services for Nov/Dec	175.00
144	VOID		
145	VISA	LED lights/hardware for truck	390.14
146	Casey's General Stores, Inc	Fuel for truck	68.28
147	Hills Bank & Trust	Loan interest payment	5,094.50
148	Shannon Appraisal Services	Appraisal fee for 33 Ely St	250.00
		<b>Total Bills for Operating Account</b>	<b>7,193.61</b>
W031	Alliant Energy	City Well Electricity	183.08
W032	Jared Vogeler	Operations for Jan17	300.00
W033	Keystone Laboratories, Inc	Water Testing for Jan17	12.00
W034	Cummins Central Power LLC	Hour meter repair on gen	265.49
		<b>Total Bills for Water Account</b>	<b>760.57</b>
		<b>Total Bills for February</b>	<b>7,954.18</b>

Vislisel made motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2017. MSB Malone. None opposed, motion carried.

	Beg Fund Balance	Deposits	Disbursements	End Fund Balance	Investments	Total Fund Balance
General	224,071.94	1,786.25	4,121.44	221,736.75	508,286.85	730,023.60
Road Use Tax	24,117.27	3,280.79	1,661.58	25,736.48		25,736.48
LOST	68,565.19	3,179.32	0.00	71,744.51		71,744.51
Building Fund	16,301.22	54.00	225.00	16,130.22		16,130.22
Capital Projects	(103,807.16)	306,407.87	89,159.72	113,440.99		113,440.99
Water	13,793.05	316.52	752.96	13,356.61		13,356.61
<b>Total Clerk's Balance</b>	<b>243,041.51</b>	<b>315,024.75</b>	<b>95,920.70</b>	<b>462,145.56</b>	<b>508,286.85</b>	<b>970,432.41</b>
Total Outstanding				150.00		
<b>Total Bank Balance</b>				<b>462,295.56</b>		

Bolten & Menk completed their assessment of a railroad quiet zone within city limits. The only feasible option is to install wayside horns at one or both crossings. However, estimated installation costs are \$120,000 per crossing. In addition, there would be annual maintenance and inspection costs that could be as much as \$6,000 per year. A quiet zone is cost prohibitive and will not be pursued further.

Malone met with contractor and Chief Engineer regarding the RR bridge construction project. They plan to use Bertram St from the north to haul equipment and materials into the construction site. Malone is working with City Attorney to ensure the City is covered for damages to streets as a result of this project.

City Attorney is finalizing a purchase agreement for the property at 33 Ely Street.

Kula made motion to approve Linn County Sheriff's services for a minimum of 26 hours per month at a rate of \$34.00 per hour for FY2018. MSB Mulholland. None opposed, motion carried.

Kula made motion to name Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun as the official newspaper for the City of Bertram. MSB Vislisel. None opposed, motion carried.

**Bridge Updates:** Drive at 303 S. Ely Street is rutted out. Malone to work on getting a load of gravel delivered to the site to level it out.

There was discussion on water bill collections. Some residents feel threatened by the process. Clerk explained the process in detail to help alleviate any concerns: (1) day after original due date, a late fee is assessed and past due/shut off notices are mailed out (shut off

occurs the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the following month); (2) day before shut off, a notice is placed on resident's door and a \$25.00 fee is assessed; (3) if there is no effort to contact Clerk or Council by the second Tuesday of the month, water is shut off. This process is followed per the City's ordinance.

There was discussion of dead trees in the City's parks and whether or not residents would be allowed to cut any down. It was decided that the City's employee or a contractor would drop any dead trees and drag to a safer area for residents to cut up and haul away.

Kula made motion to adjourn. MSB Mulholland. None opposed, meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

**Lisa Berry**  
**Clerk**