

**July 5, 2018**

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 Steven Carpenter, Robert Malone, Nancy McBurney, and William Mulholland. Council member absent: Dave Hunt.

The Linn County Sheriff was present at the meeting and provided the Council with the monthly report. Required hours: 26.0; actual hours recorded: 53.4; 14 calls for service.

Mulholland made motion to approve the minutes from the June 6th meeting, MSB Malone. None opposed, motion carried. Corrections: Mulholland claimed he did not plan to get additional bids for street repairs.

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

<b>Warrant No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
001	Alliant Energy	City Hall Electricity	54.98
002	Alliant Energy	Street Lights	478.23
003	Alliant Energy	City Park Electricity	23.36
004	Alliant Energy	High Point Park Electricity	20.93
005	VOID	Phone/Internet	
006	Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun	Publication Fees for June	131.49
007	IPERS	Payroll Benefits for June	367.70
008	Jason Houghtaling	Payroll for June	562.84
009	United States Treasury	Q2 Federal Payroll Taxes	900.96
010	Treasurer, State of Iowa	Q2 State Withholding Tax	60.00
011	Iowa League of Cities	Member Dues for FY19	327.00
012	Roto-Rooter	Pump holding tank at City Park	350.00
013	Port O Jonny, Inc	Portable toilet for Homecoming	140.00
014	Linn County Sheriff's Office	Police Protection	2,652.00
015	City of Marion	Salt/Sand Mix	2,294.00
016	City of Marion	Electrical Inspections	95.00
017	Steven Carpenter	Exp Reimbursement: Small City Workshop, Children at Play Caution sign	76.02
018	Casey's General Stores, Inc	Fuel for City Eqpt	146.49
019	VOID		
020	VISA	Accounting Software	189.00
021	Hills Bank & Trust (VISA)	Eqpt maintenance supplies/ weed killer	269.36
022	Nazette, Marnar, Nathanson, & Shea	Attorney fees nuisance properties/ordinances	1,575.00
023	ABC Disposal Systems	Disposal fees for dumpster at 33 Ely Street	793.00
		<b>Total Bills for Operating Account</b>	<b>11,507.36</b>
W001	Alliant Energy	City Well Electricity	109.08
W002	Jared Vogeler	Operations for June	380.00
W003	Keystone Laboratories, Inc	Water Testing June	12.50
W004	Treasurer, State of Iowa	Q2 Sales Tax Remittance	100.00
		<b>Total Bills for Water Account</b>	<b>601.58</b>
		<b>Total Bills for July</b>	<b>12,108.94</b>

Four Oaks to be billed for electrical inspection fees from the City of Marion in the amount of \$95.00.

Treasurer's Report not available due to Clerk's vacation. Will be reported in full at next meeting.

Linn County Building Agreement: Bertram to draft its own 28E agreement for Linn County to review and approve in order for them to take over inspections. Council to plan a separate work session to work out the details and consult with City Attorney.

Rustic Ridge trees: There are two large trees that are in the City right of way that are dead and need to be removed before they fall blocking the road. Quote 20180563 from D&D Tree Service for removal is \$1,275.00 for the oak by 1801 Ridge View Court, \$1,625.00 for the dead tree on corner across from 1801 Ridge View Court. Total quoted amount is \$2,900.00. Mulholland is waiting to hear back from another tree removal company, Carpenter to touch base with D&D to make sure the dead oak can be removed now, or if we need to wait until winter. There are also two dead trees on Angle Street, north of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street that may need to be removed. The limb on the pinoak overhanging City Hall is planned for removal this winter.

Council would like to have an open town hall meeting prior to the August meeting on Monday, July 30, 2018, at 7:00 pm to answer questions about annexation. Chad Sands from ECICOG will be present to help answer any questions.

Part-time help discussion: Jason is requesting a second part-time person to help with projects in town. Sheldon King's schedule is such that he is not available when needed but will still be utilized on big projects. He would also like some seasonal employees to help with mowing and other projects as needed. Carpenter made motion to hire two minors for seasonal part-time employees and Tony Vislisel as a third part-time Public Works employee. MSB Malone. None opposed, motion carried.

Fireworks legislation: McBurney is requesting the City consider adopting its own ordinance to limit fireworks usage. We are currently following the State's regulations, which allows citizens to set off fireworks the entire month of June through July 8<sup>th</sup>. Council to discuss further in the next couple of meetings, but the intent would be to limit use, not prohibit.

200 Angle Street: An inspector checked the house on Tuesday and provided a list of items that needed attention to Mayor Drahos Thursday morning. Kay Studt's attorney was present and would like a copy of the report, which Mayor Drahos will forward to him and City Attorney, Shea. The attorney stated that they have no issue with the City getting an inspector. The attorney was told by the inspector that repairs are needed, but structurally is fine. The roof is in dire need of repair, which they were in process of doing prior to the injunction, at which time repairs ceased. The attorney stated that Kay will be fully cooperative with providing the information necessary, to the best of her knowledge, to complete the permit and pay the fee to finish repairs to the roof. Attorney and Kay Studt said she has also applied for some financial aid to assist with repairs. Attorney agrees that the property is unsightly with tarps on the roof, so he instructed Kay to meet with Malone to get the permit to complete the repairs. Malone outlined the information needed to fill out the permit and made arrangements to meet with her on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, after 1:00 pm to get it issued. The inspection report mentioned some sagging trusses that need to be addressed: Kay's attorney stated that her goal is to finish the roof to last, so the intent is to brace the trusses as needed. Kay was also asked about cleanup of the rest of the stuff in the yard. She has been delayed by the death of her friend and some health issues. Kay isn't able to lift much and doesn't have much help to get the yard cleaned up. She wondered where a dumpster could be stationed, without further issue with the City or Sheriff's Department. Mayor & Council granted her the ability to park the dumpster on Angle Street as long as it wasn't there more than a week and continuous progress was being made on the roof and yard clean up. Jason Houghtaling volunteered he and his family to help Kay clean up the yard areas, once she has the dumpster.

33 Angle Street: Malone & Hunt met July 26<sup>th</sup> with a rep from Linn County Conservation board, as well as some people that can help with grant writing. They want to do some research on the best use of the land but do believe there would be grant money available. The railroad culvert needs to be upgraded so that water will move through it, but that the current set up should work, in theory. These reps will provide additional information to Hunt when they have it.

Snow removal equipment: Jason has a couple of quotes on snow removal equipment 10-foot electric V-plow Futureline \$8410 installed, Stainless steel sand spreader \$5195 installed. The second quote was from a company in Des Moines for a couple of hundred dollars less, but we would need to drive the truck to Des Moines and back. Hydraulic versions are available, but they are more expensive to purchase/install and maintenance is more expensive over time. The new truck also needs amber flashing lights and rust-proof coating needs to be installed. Jason can do the rust-proof coating himself for less than half of the quotes he has received. Malone made motion to allow Jason to purchase the V-plow and stainless sand spreader by Futureline. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, motion passed. Jason plans to get the rust-proof coating put on prior to installation.

Carpenter reached out to Green Iowa Americorps group regarding rain garden installations at properties to lower runoff into the storm sewers. There may be funding available to assist property owners.

Tennis court resurfacing is complete.

McBurney went over letters on no parking signs with marker for extended event at the Township Hall.

There are scrub trees that need to be cleared out along the road on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street between Green Street & City Park. Jason recommends purchase of a pole saw to aid in cleaning up overhanging branches. Mayor Drahos granted authorization to purchase a pole saw.

There is a hole in the road Green Street & Hilltop, that inspected and, if needed, patched. Jason to inspect.

Mulholland made motion to adjourn. MSB Carpenter. None opposed, meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

**Lisa Berry**  
Clerk