

Bennington City Council
Regular Meeting
June 25, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with a motion by Dennis Kelley, seconded by Trudi Rathbun. Motion carried. David Galvan, Dennis Kelley, Trudi Rathbun, Darcy Smith, Ward Stockamp, Judith Swagerty and visitors Chris Rose (left at 8:19), Kathy Luthi (left at 7:45) and Dawn Stanley (left at 7:34) were present.

Additions to Agenda: Addresses and City Code

June 11, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes were discussed. Corrections to be made to the minutes are: Change meeting date from June 25, 2018 to June 11, 2018 and correct vote on 2nd paragraph on the 2nd page (Trudi Rathbun voted "no", did not abstain).

Accounts payable were discussed. Questions regarding Dustin Murk's personal vehicle mileage reimbursement (two trips) and Mandy Gantenbein's personal vehicle mileage reimbursement (April 29 through May 19).

Motion by Judith Swagerty, seconded by Darcy Smith, to approve the June 11, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as corrected and payment of the printed list of bills. Motion carried.

No violations have been submitted.

Kathy Luthi was present to discuss EMS history. On April 18, 1994, Janice Davidson, Bob Johnson and Jim McClain were present at the County Commission meeting to request a tax district be established outside the tax lid to fund ambulance services within the county. The General Election held in November 1994 asked for an ambulance tax not to exceed 3 mills. It passed. Map was drawn up by Bob & Jim, 4 districts were formed (Delphos, Miltonvale, Minneapolis & Bennington (Tescott Ambulance Service had already ceased service and was taken over by Minneapolis Ambulance Service). Delphos Ambulance Service later ceased operation and was taken over by Minneapolis Ambulance Service. Resolution 2010-02 was passed; this removed the tax lid on the EMS Fund. For Budget year 2016 the County levy for EMS services as 4.344 mills, it increased to 6.000 mills for Budget year 2018. Minneapolis and Bennington EMS licenses are held by each city. One mill should raise \$77,000-85,000.00 for the 2019 Budget year. It has been requested that the Ottawa County Commissioners run the services. Ambulance taxing districts have been discussed. Recommendations from two different surveys have been shared. The last survey done was in 2013 and it gave three options, the last of which was to utilize the services of a private ambulance service to cover the county. Items right now being considered are to align the Bennington Ambulance Service district and make a taxing district. Kathy stated both services have tremendous volunteers. The county is under a tax lid and EMS falls under that lid. (Judith will contact the State Board of EMS to find out the number of calls that have been made).

Chris Rose, representing Bennington Recreation Commission, was present at the council's request to discuss continuing problems with the commission. Chris reported there is no job description for the Director of Recreation Activities (Stephanie Kidd currently is employed by the commission in this position). The auditors have not been pleased with the lack of paperwork from the commission (receipts & minutes). Chris stated that Brian Levendofsky is going to get another computer donated to the commission. They have just started trying to get things in order. Chris reported that Fred Kidd, Recreation Commission Chairperson, is wanting to step down from that position and that Dan Johnson is possibly going to be moving out of town. The commission is still short one member (must reside within the Bennington city limits). They have not met for three months due to Fred's schedule. Mayor Stockamp stated that in the past they have looked at joining with USD 240, which would increase the area from which to appoint commission members. Trudi Rathbun agreed to talk with USD 240 Superintendent Fred Van Rankin about this possibility. What sports are currently being offered and for which age groups? Chris did not know. Chris stated he will be taking minutes of the meetings and will make sure that the City has a copy of the minutes.

2019 Budget draft was discussed. Page 7.1 Sales Tax Revenue, Personal Services Expenditures; Page 14.1 Sales Tax Fund, is the income estimate for 2019 accurate?

House numbers – David thought we need to change our ordinance on addresses. Discussion. Changing the ordinance would have no impact on what is in place now, it would apply only to new homes &/or businesses.

City Code – discussed some of the items on the list. Council is to read over the comments and be prepared to make decisions at the July 9, 2018 meeting.

Motion by David Galvan, seconded by Trudi Rathbun, to adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 9:23 p.m.