

Bennington City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022

The May 9, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. with a motion by David Galvan, seconded by Brian Davidson. Motion carried.

Laura Bowers, Brian Davidson, David Galvan, Dennis Kelley, Mayor Ward Stockamp, Judith Swagerty, Operations Worker Dustin Murk, Compliance Officer Jeff Scheele and visitor Brian Pratt (left at 7:18 p.m.) were present.

Additions to the Agenda: Denny Coellner, Rodeo Grounds, Limb Pile (concrete), Tire Recycling Grants, Railroad building by Kyle Hoeffner's and Nelson lot.

Motion by Judith Swagerty, seconded by Laura Bowers, to approve the April 25, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes as printed and payment of the printed list of bills. Motion carried.

Compliance Officer Jeff Scheele reported that he had visited with Andy Lowe regarding clean up of plumbing supplies in his yard and commented on the vacant house south of Shane & Angela Campbell in the 200 block of North Lincoln Street.

Brian Pratt was present to inquire about a variance for property at 219 N Parker. He was informed that he should apply for a variance. He will fill out the application for a variance form.

Trailer at 316 N Lincoln Street. Aaron will take care of the paperwork when he gets back.

Anita Goertzen (contact for our software) contacted Mayor Stockamp regarding our trash rates. She stated we were losing money in the landfill fund. Will have Adrienne check the status on our contract with Minneapolis Refuse. Discussion regarding Free Landfill days.

School Speed Zone sign near the S corner of the cemetery was damaged recently due to a windstorm. \$4,187.10 is the cost to replace the entire sign & equipment. Some parts are still in good condition and can be reused. Motion by Brian Davidson, seconded by Judith Swagerty, to replace what is needed, not to exceed \$4,187.00. Motion carried.

City Plumbing took care of a sewer back up problem at Grace Lawrence's. The problem was due to roots in the city main. Motion by Laura Bowers, seconded by Brian Davidson, to pay the bill (\$2,464.05) owed to City Plumbing. Motion carried.

Bernie Regnier submitted two applications for fireworks permits. First one is for 324 N Struble, storage of fireworks on premises from June 16-July 13, 2022, and sale of fireworks from July 1-4, 2022. Copy of his certificate of insurance was included. Second one was for Public Display at the Bennington Bible Church, from 5:00 p.m.-11:45 p.m. on July 4, 2022, with July 5, 2022, as the alternate date. Motion by Dennis Kelley, seconded by David Galvan, to approve both applications. Motion carried.

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Participation. The plan outlines our resources, what we can do in cases of emergencies (loss of power, tornadoes, etc.). The Plan is for 2023-2026. Motion by Judith Swagerty, seconded by Brian Davidson, to approve Mayor Stockamp signing the Plan. Motion carried.

Public restrooms – Laura did some more research. \$191,000 - \$221,000 from Public Restroom Co. Restrooms similar to those at the Ottawa County State Lake are a Tiago 2-hole vault restroom for \$41,600. Cortez 2-hole flush toilets restroom for \$61,500. We would need to get the site ready for both of the last two. Tabled. Mayor Stockamp gave Laura information from regarding MidAmerica Grant Writing.

Denny Coellner – Operations Worker Dustin Murk found out that our site is only for use by City of Bennington residents. Mr. Coellner can apply for a permit from the State. (He would also need to get a permit from Ottawa County).

Rodeo grounds – Laura reported that kids have not been riding dirt bikes, etc. there recently. It is taken care of. One of the disc golf stands has been hit. Discussion regarding 4-wheelers and motorcycles at the area. Laura also stated that someone had left water running at the north end of the arena area.

Recycled tire benches – Judith reported that Tire Recycling Grants open up in the fall.

Brian reported that the Kyle Railroad building north of the Coop is falling apart. He stated that Terry & Tim, subcontractors for Kyle Railroad, don't clean up. Brian will show Jeff Scheele which building it is. Jeff will take care of a Notice to Abate.

Nelson lot – Laura suggested two Pickle Ball courts (Pickle Ball is something everybody from 4-95 years of age can play. The courts are 34'x64'. 4 people play at a time. Minneapolis has one and The Farm (downtown Minneapolis) has one. It is catching on, she said. Multi-use activity areas were also suggested for the lot.

Motion by David Galvan, seconded by Brian Davidson, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.