

**CITY OF BOTTINEAU
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2024
CITY ARMORY-7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Attorney Benson, Auditor Nostdahl, Superintendent Schwalbe & Council Members: Mortensen, Mehlhoff, Fix, Marsden, Seykora, Stewart, Lauckner & Getzlaff.

ABSENT: Mayor Schoenborn.

Meeting called to order by Council President Seykora.

CONSENT AGENDA: Marsden moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Fix, carried.

BILLS: Marsden reviewed the list of bills, Stewart moved to approve/pay the list of bills, seconded by Lauckner. On roll call all voted yes, carried

POLICE REPORT: Officer Ethan B. was present for questions. Monitor 13th & Bennett for stop sign violations.

WOLD ENGINEERING: Jessica Tagastad & Jesse Brandvold were present. We have received the final bill from the 2023 Water Line Project to Kemper Construction. The progress is good for the 2024 Street Project. The concrete work is almost done on 2nd St E. Kersten Street has everything removed & the stabilization of the base will be starting soon, when that is done then the concrete work starts.

TEAM LABS: Gary Syvertson from Team Labs gave a presentation on Lagoon Sludge. Lagoon cell #1, which is the primary intake has about 1.83 feet of sludge on the bottom & cell #2 has 1.4 feet. His talk was about a treatment plan called "Bio-Dredge Program". This program is used to reduce the amount of sludge with a bacterial treatment. It is cheaper than dredging the cells. We do have this expense in the 2025 proposed budget, but do we want to start sooner? This program requires a yearly cost to keep it maintained. Finance Committee will discuss.

OTTER TAIL POWER: Final paperwork has been signed, we are just waiting to receive the payment for this land we sold them.

PROPANE BIDS: Marsden moved to accept the lone propane bid from Cenex at \$1.36/gallon, seconded by Getzlaff, carried.

COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS:

CITY SUPERINTENDENT:

We were asked to paint crosswalk lines on 13th & Bennett, we don't usually paint lines in residential areas. Council feels we have bigger issues than that at this time.

CHAMBER/EDC REPORT:

No report.

POLICE COMMITTEE:

No report.

CITY PROPERTY:

We own 2 parcel in lot 9 of Original. One is 10' x 50' & one is 10' x 75'. They at one time might have been purchased for an alley way but never used as such. Should we keep this land or sell it? Discuss next month.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Planning Commission met on 7/12/24: Rick Moum is requesting a variance on lots 24-25 Block 41 Whites 1st Addition – 1025 Ohmer St. This is currently zoned "B-2" & he would like to build a storage building. Storage building are allowed in a "M" District" but the set-back requirements present a hardship. The variance would allow him to build

& use the set-backs in the “B-2” district. Planning Comm. is recommending that this be allowed. Marsden moved to approve the variance, seconded by Fix, carried.

Eric Herbel placed a storage or shipping container on his property where he has put a golf driving range. He did this without obtaining a building permit. These containers are only allowed in an “M” District & this property is zoned “B-2”. Mayor Schoenborn had him sign an agreement that this could stay for a period of 1 year & then it must be moved. It is not recommended to allow a variance to keep this container there because it would set a precedence. Herbel is coming to a meeting in the future to discuss.

BUILDING INSPECTOR:

No report.

ORDINANCE:

No report.

STREET:

No report.

UTILITY:

There is currently a sewage violation at 302 11th St E. The owner is draining the holding tank outside, causing it to run onto other properties. He has been turned in to 1st District Health Unit & has been told to stop & that he needs to hook into the city sewer system.

MUNICIPAL JUDGE:

No report.

SHADE TREE:

No report.

HEALTH:

No report.

POOL:

Stewart reported that the pool has used up its budget for 2024 & will be requesting additional funding, which will be taken from the Pool Reserve Fund #7100. This is mainly due to additional wages.

POLICE REPORT:

No report.

BEAUTIFICATION:

Met on 7/29/24, still trying to get projects from last year finished.

EMPLOYEE:

No report.

TRAILS:

No report.

FINANCE:

Mortenson moved to approve on 1st reading, the proposed 2025 Budget, seconded by Stewart, carried. Marsden would like members to take the budget home & study it prior to the final reading in Sept.

Finance Committee is recommending that we purchase lot 24 in the Preserve to clean up drainage issues & then sell the rest of the lot. Much discussion was held on this. All members are to take a look at this situation & bring it up at the next meeting.

ARMORY:

No report.

ARENA:

No report.

FIRE HALL:

No report.

OTHER: Nostdahl reported on training & presented information on the proposed measure to eliminate property taxes.

Kenny Fix, 711 Kersten St. was present to discuss boulevard trees on that street. The street paving project has damaged roots of some of the trees. Concerns that all these trees will be removed or die. Seykora will visit with Wold’s & Shade Tree rep’s as the Council would like to be able to keep as many trees as possible. Many of the trees in this area are Ash trees.

Marsden moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m., seconded by Fix.

ATTEST:

Penny J. Nostdahl, City Auditor

Perry Schoenborn, Mayor