

**City of East Bernard**  
**Board of Alderman**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**18 January 2022**

**Present:**

Marvin R. Holub, Mayor  
David Tomchesson, Alderman Pos 1  
Shawn Farrell, Alderman Pos 2  
Andrew Webster, Alderman Pos 3  
Eric Viktorin, Alderman, Pos 4  
Jonathon Szymanski, Alderman Pos 5  
Audrey Searce, City Secretary

**Absent:**

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum of the Board members present, Mayor Marvin Holub called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, in the Union Room of the Prosperity Bank Building.

**INVOCATION**

Mayor Holub gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Holub led the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- ◆ Brad Dixon was present to address the board with a few concerns. The first concern is the trash service. He believes that it should be a mandatory service for all residents because he does not feel with the current way, it is not saving our roads like we were hoping for. The second concern are the roads and how the repair of the roads is being managed. The third concern is the fiber internet being installed. He feels that the residents were misled with the belief all areas would have service provided when there are some areas that will not have service.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Holub reported as follows:

- ◆ Mayor Holub reported that he is working on projects at the maintenance barn on County Road 291. He has plans for the roof to be painted, the well house is currently being built, and a major cleanup is to be done with debris hauled off, etc.
- ◆ Mayor Holub is still attempting to reach out to Centerpoint Energy on the Otto/Brandes project.
- ◆ Mayor Holub will be getting bids for the maintenance projects at the pool and park.
- ◆ The animal shelter project being funded by PUPS is on hold until we can get a drawing back.
- ◆ Preparation on a building inspection company performing inspections for the city is in progress and we are aiming to present to the Board of Aldermen next month.

**CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Searce reported on the status of the grants. The audits being conducted of both grants are still in progress and should be wrapping up soon. Secretary Searce presented the final budget for the 20-21 fiscal year. There were no questions regarding that report Current financials were reviewed with a few questions from Alderman Webster concerning a payment made to Waller County Construction that was over the estimate presented. Alderman Webster did not feel it should have been paid without being presented to the board for payment. He does not feel that is how business is conducted properly and feels that we may need to investigate other companies for bids on our street projects.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2021 REGULAR MEETING.**

Mayor Holub asked if there were any corrections or concerns about the minutes as read. There was no discussion of the minutes. Alderman Viktorin made a motion, seconded by Alderman Szymanski to approve the November 15, 2021 Regular meeting minutes. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE ACTION TO APPROVE 2020 AUDIT.**

Mr. Jeff Stogner was present to present to the audit for the year ending September 30, 2020. The City of East Bernard is in good financial position. Mr. Stogner also addressed to board concerning the need to adhere to the budget approved. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to approve the audit as presented, seconded by Alderman Farrell. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL RESOLUTION 2022-001 ADOPTION OF WHARTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.**

Secretary Searce presented Resolution 2022-001 adopting the Wharton County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan has been adopted by Wharton County and the other cities. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to adopt the Wharton County Hazard Mitigation Plane with Resolution 2022-001, seconded by Alderman Viktorin. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL ORDINANCE 2022-001 ORDERING A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 7, 2022.**

Secretary Searce presented Ordinance 2022-001 ordering a general election for Saturday, May 7, 2022 to elect positions 2, 4 and Mayor. Alderman Szymanski made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-001 ordering the general election on May 7, 2022, seconded by Alderman Farrell. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF WHARTON FOR MAY 7, 2022.**

Secretary Searce presented the joint election agreement to the Board of Aldermen. There are no changes to the agreement from previous years. Cindy Richter, Wharton County Elections Administrator will be conducting the election. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to approve the joint election agreement, seconded by Alderman Viktorin. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL BID TO REPAIR THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT THE EAST BERNARD CITY PARK.**

Mayor Holub presented the bid from Kraftsman to replace the broken slide at the East Bernard City Park. The Board of Aldermen had concerns with the shipping and handling price, and requested we negotiate with Kraftsman to see if that could be reduced. Alderman Webster made a motion to table the agenda item, seconded by Alderman Viktorin. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AWARD RFQ FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT GRANT.**

Secretary Searce presented the score sheets from the companies that submitted a RFQ for engineering services for the American Rescue Plan Act grant project. Two companies submitted: KSA Services and Gunda, Inc. The selection committee consisted of Mayor Holub, Alderman Tomchesson, Ed Vacek, Wharton County W.C.I.D. #2, and Secretary Searce. Alderman Tomchesson gave the Board an overview of his scoring for the companies, which aligned with the other members. Alderman Szymanski made a motion to award KSA the project, seconded by Alderman Webster. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**DISCUSS AND TAKE ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON PURSUING A FIREWORKS ORDINANCE IN EAST BERNARD CITY LIMITS.**

Dale Toellner spoke to the Board of Aldermen on his concerns with the use of aerial fireworks inside the city limits of East Bernard. This past New Year's holiday, fireworks debris landed on this house and inside his yard. He believes the Board needs to really consider passing a fireworks ordinance like other cities have done. Constable Szymanski believes it would be in the best interest of the City to do so as well. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to move forward with investigating other ordinances and contacting Olson & Olson about our options, seconded by Alderman Farrell. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

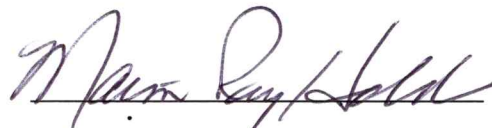
Alderman Tomchesson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Szymanski to adjourn the Regular session. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

These minutes are approved on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, A.D. 2022.

ATTEST:

  
AUDREY SCEARCE  
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED:

  
MARVIN R. HOLUB  
MAYOR

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