

**Barrett City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 13, 2020**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**Barrett Community Center**

Present: Mayor-Todd Lang; Council-Jason Wendt, Tim Lasch, Jodi Moss, Michelle Jenson; Clerk/Treasurer-Marita Rhude; Maintenance-Gerald Puchalski; Guests: Justin Anderson, Mark Haberer, Cheri Simpson, Betty DeClercq, Joyce Hanson, Cheri Weins, Bonnie Leraas, Les and Karen Alvstad, Bruce Olson, Terry Burns, William Saathoff, Ray & Jill Hanson, Roger Smith.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A hearing was scheduled for the Dean Ladwig property at 313 Lake Street. Dean did not attend in person due to COVID-19, a phone call to him was attempted with no answer. Justin Anderson said that the council could declare an Ordinance violation and seek abatement or enter into an abatement agreement with Dean. Moss made a motion to declare a public nuisance does exist and the nuisance may be abated by completion of the following: removing all dead trees, repair well pump cover and/or cap well, cover basement stairwell, clean up and remove broken glass, move propane tank that is too close to neighbor's property, repair/or remove fence line, remove buckthorn and noxious weeds, and repairing all broken out windows and painting and shingling the house. To enter an abatement agreement with Dean Ladwig to abate the listed item with progress to commence on or before August 1, 2020 and be completed by November 1, 2020, seconded Jenson, MCU

A public hearing was held on a request for a Conditional Use Permit by William Saathoff at 16987 County Road 8, which is zoned agriculture and requires a conditional use permit to allow for a small used car lot. Wendt moved to resolve to grant a conditional use permit to William Saathoff at 16987 County Road 8 for a used car lot, seconded by Lasch. Roll Call vote: Lasch-yes, Wendt-yes, Moss-yes, Jenson-yes, Lang-yes

Visitor Comments: Bruce Olson questioned comp time for the Maintenance position. Jill Hanson commented on her son being the Maintenance person in Hancock and he can't carry over comp time, feels that the City should manage things differently. Cheri Simpson requested to know where things are on the Lake Street project. Rural Development is still reviewing the project and we are waiting for approval from them before the project can be bid. There were questions on the status of the fishing pier. MN DNR has been out to look at it and we are waiting to here back from them. Karen Alvstad was wondering if the City had Capital Fund accounts for City buildings.

Jenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8th Regular Meeting and June 19<sup>th</sup>, June 22nd, July 7<sup>th</sup> and July 10<sup>th</sup> Special meetings, seconded by Moss MCU

Justin Anderson presented the City with a Nuisance Ordinance that matches the rest of Grant County town Ordinances for consideration. He also discussed the Starbuck City Nuisance Ordinance that includes the ability to access fines along with abate nuisances. The other Cities in Grant County have also been approached about the Starbuck Ordinance and hopefully when COVID-19 is past we can have a County wide Mayor/Clerks meeting to discuss how everyone wants to proceed with the Nuisance Ordinances in the future. The Council felt that they liked the Starbuck Ordinance and would wait to act upon changing the Nuisance Ordinance at this time.

Mark Haberer reported on Darin Olson's property at 426 County Road 2. Darrin he has put up a fence and cleaned up some of his front yard. Tricia Goetze at 113 Rich Ave has done very little to her property, she has picked up some sticks. Mark feels this would be a good community project. Mark said as long as they are making progress instead of going backwards we should continue to work with them.

MN DOT is asking for a \$1,000 deposit for permit work on Spruce Avenue, related to storm water, in addition to the \$5,000 deposit for the utility permit that we already gave them. This deposit will be returned at the end of the project if everything is done to satisfaction. Jenson made a motion to approve providing a \$1,000 cashier check to MN DOT for a storm water permit for Spruce Avenue, seconded by Lasch. MCU

The City reviewed two letters from West Central Area Schools in reference to potential facility option for WCA elementary students. Mayor Lang will go visit with Superintendent Dale Hogie about these issues.

Wendt made a motion to reinstate late fees and water shut offs starting in July, seconded by Jenson. MCU

Jenson made a motion to hire Jason Wendt at \$41,600 per year for Public Works Superintendent and give Marita Rhude a \$1.35 per hour increase effective August 1, 2020 to comply with Pay Equity, seconded Lasch. Motion Carried, Wendt abstained

Moss made a motion to approve a temporary on-sale liquor license for the Barrett Fire Department for August 22, seconded by Lang. MCU

Joyce Hanson gave the council a volunteer update.

Moss made a motion to pay bills in the amount of \$54,970.28, check #18578 to #18605, seconded by Jenson. MCU

Wendt made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 p.m., seconded by Lasch. MCU

Respectfully Submitted \_\_\_\_\_ Marita Rhude, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ Todd Lang, Mayor