

# Velva Regular Commission Meeting

June 22, 2020

7:00pm

Velva City Hall

Velva City Commission meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Commission President Jennifer Barta. Roll Call was done by Barta, Commissioners: President Jennifer Barta, Dave Keller, Tom Foley, Ben Zietz and Mary Liz Davis. Also in attendance: Alan Walter, Emma Lavachek, Kelly Jemtrud, Ron Nagle and Jenny Johns. Guests including: Heather Tudor and Andy Telehy. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **MINUTES**

Motion by Keller/Davis to approve the minutes from the June 8 City Commission meeting. Roll Call: All-Aye. Motion carried.

## **PAYROLL & BILLS**

Motion by Foley/Zietz to approve the bills to be paid in the amount of \$35,063.78 and Payroll for \$13,757.78. Roll Call: All-Aye. Motion carried.

## **CITY OF VELVA, ND**

*Check Register for Peoples State Bank*

<b>Period</b>	<b>Check #</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Check Amount</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>
6/20	34580	3-D SPECIALTIES, INC	\$ 495.00	06/23/20
6/20	34581	ACME TOOLS	\$ 179.35	06/23/20
6/20	34582	Chemistry Lab	\$ 18.54	06/23/20
6/20	34583	CIRCLE SANITATION	\$ 5,918.00	06/23/20
6/20	34584	FIRST DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	\$ 50.00	06/23/20
6/20	34585	G & P COMMERCIAL SALES	\$ 59.38	06/23/20
6/20	34586	George Weber	\$ 800.00	06/23/20
6/20	34587	HAWKINS INC	\$ 830.96	06/23/20
6/20	34588	MCHENRY COUNTY AUDITOR	\$ 20,325.00	06/23/20
6/20	34589	ND Dept. Environmental Quality	\$ 10.00	06/23/20
6/20	34590	ND LEAGUE OF CITIES	\$ 1,316.00	06/23/20
6/20	34591	OTTERTAIL POWER	\$ 3,507.50	06/23/20
6/20	34592	TC SPECIALTIES	\$ 49.25	06/23/20
6/20	-99735	VERENDRYE ELECTRIC COOP INC	\$ 1,333.34	06/23/20
6/20	34593	VERIZON	\$ 171.46	06/23/20
		Total	\$ 35,063.78	

## **GUESTS**

Andy Telehy addressed the Commission regarding the stop signs installed on the corners of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street West by the swimming pool. Telehy stated that he does not think the signs are necessary and parents should do a better job watching their children. He stated there would not be a safety issue if people watched their children. Telehy said that the Sheriff's Department is not doing their job. The commission listened to Telehy's concerns. The commissions duties and powers are not to govern people on their parenting techniques; their duties and powers are to create and govern the ordinances of the city of Velva, and see that the laws and ordinances are faithfully executed. Gene Jensen stated that someday it will be Telehy's grandkids in the street. Jensen stated the stop sign was absolutely necessary. Rick Erickson asked if the signs could be seasonal like the Rodeo. Larry Kroeplen is all in favor

of the stop signs and speed bumps for that area. Hollenbeck asked when the kid was hit. Discussion ensued on where the speed bumps were going to go. Ashley Pine stated it is more than rodeo traffic and the signs should be up year round. Barta asked if the Commission wanted to do anything on the issue.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

No new business.

### ***OLD BUSINESS***

Johns contacted the City Attorney and discussed the strip annexation request from the last meeting. VanGrinsven mentioned that there was really not a good access point. Discussion ensued with City Engineer. Johns is to call the County Recorder's office to discuss the issue.

### ***ENGINEERING***

#### ***REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT/FINANCE COMMISSIONER***

Barta presented Chapter 14 of the Ordinance Code, including a resolution regarding Mobile Food Units. Davis/Foley made a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Chapter 14 and resolution. Roll Call: Foley, Keller, Davis, Barta – Aye; Zietz – Nay. Motion Carried.

Davis/Zietz made a motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Chapter 2 of the Ordinance Code including resolution 3-102. Roll Call: Foley, Keller, Davis, Barta, Zietz – Aye. Motion Carried.

The proposal given by Main Electric for the installation of the radar signs by the school was discussed. Barta received a grant from the Velva Fire Department for radar signs for the safety of the children at the school back in January. Discussion ensued on purchasing one more sign to be placed in the vicinity of the swimming pool. Keller/Foley made a motion to accept the proposal with the addition of one more radar sign to be placed at the commission's discretion. Roll Call: All – Aye. Motion Carried.

Discussion ensued on the street sign replacement project. Barta asked if the signs being taken down could be sold to the public. Walter stated that the city could post "public property" for sale. Zietz/Davis made a motion to sell the street signs for \$10 a piece on a first come first serve basis, once all of the signs have been replaced. Roll Call: Zietz, Davis, Barta, Keller – Aye. Foley – No. Motion Carried.

#### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**Water Commissioner:** Zietz has been working with the city engineers and vendors regarding some posts and comments on Facebook pertaining to the city's hard water. Zietz stated that the city has never failed a test through the state, and throughout the majority of the state of North Dakota there is hard water. He was given quotes to add a water softening system to the current city water plant; quotes varied, however, the ultimate cost would be approximately \$500,000 on a city assessment to install a water softener. Zietz stated that hard water vs. soft water is a preference, and if an owner's preference is soft water, then they should purchase a water softener. The only alternative is a special assessment for city residents. Zietz also stated that the CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) is always available at the city office and that he would like it posted on Facebook/city website. Zietz stated he is extremely proud of the job the Public Works department does to provide the city with safe, quality water. Zietz thanked the NDRWSA employees who came and gave a demonstration last week. Zietz stated that the repair at the lagoon was completed today. Zietz made a recommendation to increase the bulk water fee as he does not think it is fair that the bulk tank is cheaper than the current billed usage cost. Zietz/Davis made a motion to increase the bulk water fill rate to \$2.00/100 gallons. Roll Call: All – Aye. Motion Carried.

**Street Commissioner:** Davis stated that the street repair project will begin the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July. Davis discussed vehicles on the streets, blocking views around corners and trailers not being connected to vehicles per the current ordinance. Davis stated that weed spraying on the streets and right of ways have been done and it looks good. Discussion ensued on the curb painting project and the estimated start date.

**Cemetery Commissioner:** Keller stated that he would like to work into the budget a bigger mower for the cemetery and DOT right-of-way. Keller will remove flowers from the cemetery as soon as possible.

**Police Commissioner:** Foley discussed police patrol over the past two weekend's rodeos. Keith Cederstrom, County Commissioner, was in attendance. Discussion ensued with him regarding revisions to the policing contract. Foley will request a breakdown on the police report.

### **AUDITOR**

Johns reminded everyone of the upcoming budget season. Discussion ensued about the length of time it is taking for the audits to come back, and do we need to switch companies as it is holding up grant opportunities. Discussion ensued regarding extending Hanson's hours for the summer with the public works department. Zietz/Davis made a motion to extend Hanson's hours by 200. Roll Call: All-Aye.

### **BUILDING INSPECTOR/ASSESSOR**

Nagle presented a building permit that was recommended for approval by the Planning & Zoning Commission. Sheldon Baglien's shop/garage permit. Keller/Davis made a motion to approve the building permit. Roll Call: All-Aye. Motion Carried.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **COMPLAINTS**

### **GAMING**

Sonja Kesler from the Lariat presented a gaming permit from the American Legion Post 91 out of New Salem. Barta read an email from the gaming manager for this post, Mark Meyer. Discussion ensued on how the 50% donation will be paid and how it will be tracked. Kesler said she does not want to use the Velva Fire Department gaming at this time. Zietz stated that the commission has no right to deny the permit. Zietz made a motion to approve the gaming permit. Barta called for a second, twice. Motion failed due to lack of second.

Discussion ensued on a gaming permit submitted by the Velva Fire Department. Zietz/Davis made a motion to approve the Velva Fire Department's gaming permit. Roll Call: All – Aye. Motion Carried.

The Community Youth Project's gaming permit was discussed. Keller/Foley made a motion to approve the permit for the CYP. Roll Call: All – Aye. Motion Carried.

### **ADDITIONS**

Barta stated that there will be a Leadership Code of Conduct policy presented at the next meeting.

Johns explained that the organization meeting was postponed due to the automatic recount that needed to be done by the County.

### **ENGINEERING**

Lavacheck gave numbers on what a city-wide street replacement project would roughly cost, 11 million dollars, which would all have to be special assessed at this point. Discussion ensued on what it would be to add in the water and sewer infrastructure. Lavachek will get that to us at the next meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Barta adjourned the meeting at 8:48 pm.

*Next Commission Meeting will be Monday, July 13 at 7:00pm.*

*If you would like to be on the agenda in the future, the deadline is Thursday at noon before a meeting.*

**\*\*Minutes are subject to amendment and approval\*\***

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**Jennifer Barta**  
**Commission President**

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**Jenny Johns**  
**Auditor**