

BARRY CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 8, 2024

Mayor Rennecker called the regular monthly meeting of the Barry City Council to order at 7 p.m. He then led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance. All elected officials were present except Bridget Cramsey.

Debbie Harshman made a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting and Marynel Corton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Marynel Corton made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Steve Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Mayor Rennecker changed the agenda around because of the weather so Terry Epley from ABNG audit firm could present the annual audit and head back home. He went over the audit and stated everything looked good. Steve Schultz made a motion to approve the audit report and Marynel Corton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Christina Powell spoke to the council and said she is back working at the YMCA. She stated that she will be there at least 4 days a week.

Mayor Rennecker discussed the building at 844 Bainbridge Street that needs to be demolished. Kevin and Joseph Hughes with Jaren Industries joined the meeting via zoom. They were the only one that turned in a bid to demolish the building. The bid includes: removal of building, sand protection for the sidewalks next to the building, removal of all waste to an EPA approved landfill and backfilling with suitable landfill for a cost of \$100,500.00. The demolition will require a great deal of hand work. This bid does not include the removal of or any precautionary measures required for the disposal of asbestos containing waste. Joseph Hughes stated the adjoining wall looks like a common wall and will need to seal wall when building is taken down. Mayor Rennecker said this will be a TIF funded project and legal said it has to be 2/3 vote to take action on tearing the building down. Steve Schultz asked if we have the money to take care of this and Mayor Rennecker said yes and money to coat the wall. A 10 day notice not counting week-ends will be given to tear down, colder weather is better for demolition of building. Steve Schultz said we have waited long enough and made a motion to waive competitive bids and Marynel Corton seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Debbie Harshman – yes  
Scott Harris - yes  
Steve Schultz – yes  
Marynel Corton – yes  
Justin Puterbaugh - yes  
Bridge Cramsey – absent

Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Steve Schultz made a motion to accept the bid from Jaren Industries in the amount of \$100,500 to demolish the building at 844 Bainbridge Street. Debbie Harshman seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Scott Harris – yes  
Steve Schultz – yes

Marynel Corton – yes  
Justin Puterbaugh – yes  
Bridget Cramsey – absent  
Debbie Harshman – yes

Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent to accept the bid from Jaren Industries.

Mayor Rennecker discussed the Tree Ordinance. Jon Fesler takes care of this for us and said we need to adopt a new municipal tree ordinance to stay eligible for Tree City USA. Jeff Hogge stated new wording has been added and Jon provided us with one that was given by Arbor Day Foundation. Steve Schultz said we had a list of trees that were not allowed and that should be attached to the ordinance. Mayor Rennecker said we will need to have four meetings a year and replace a couple of members. He asked council if they wanted to continue being a tree city. Justin Puterbaugh made a motion to approve the ordinance for Tree City and Steve Schultz seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Steve Schultz – yes  
Marynel Corton - yes  
Justin Puterbaugh – yes  
Bridget Cramsey – absent  
Debbie Harshman – yes  
Scott Harris – yes

Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent to approve the Tree City Ordinance.

Jeremy Walston gave the Public Works Director report. He said they replaced the front doors at the pool and had 3-4 water leaks. Still doing work at the sewer plant – trying to get a drain working. Had issues at the wells but test # at water plant are good.

Jeff Hogge gave the City Administrator report. Jeff said he had to make two trips to Peoria to take water samples from the wells. He has the Tif annual report ready and now can send it in to state since the audit is complete. We have a new employee, Jeremy Walston Jr.

Mayor Rennecker stated the Tif Committee met before the regular meeting and will table to next month.

The Police contract has been tabled until another meeting.

Steve Schultz made a motion to go into executive session at 8 p.m. and Debbie Harshman seconded the motion.

Council returned to regular meeting at 8:32 p.m. No action was taken. Justin Puterbaugh made a motion to adjourn and Marynel Corton seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:33p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk