

BARRY CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 4, 2021

Mayor Rennecker called the regular monthly meeting of the Barry City Council to order at 7 p.m. The meeting was held by telephone conference. Those attending were the following: Mayor Rennecker, Sandra Brown, Jeff Hogge, Robert Snyder, Scott Harris, Bob Dieker, Steve Schultz, Bruce Kendall, Bridget Cramsey, Marynel Corton, Max Middendorf, David Camphouse, Debbie Dell, Jim Filbert and Tom Fagan.

Steve Schultz made a motion to approve the minutes from December meeting and Bruce Kendall seconded the motion. Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Steve Schultz made a motion to approve payment of the bills and Marynel Corton seconded the motion. Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Tom Fagan from Azavar works with an audit company that tries to find money that is owed to municipalities from utility tax, telephone, cable franchise fees, hotel/motel taxes etc. They do not charge anything unless they find money owed to the municipality, and then it would be 55% for municipality and 45% for Azavar. Steve Schultz asked him to give a better time line for how long this would take. Tom said some audits finish in 6 months maybe 18 months to complete. Steve asked how we go about collecting money if we have any owed to us and Tom said we show verification amount to the city and start the process. We can go back 3-4 years checking for money owed. Bob Dieker made a motion to go ahead with Azavar and Steve Schultz seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Bob Dieker – yes  
Steve Schultz – yes  
Scott Harris – yes  
Bruce Kendall – yes  
Marynel Corton – yes  
Bridget Cramsey – yes

Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Jeff Hogge gave the City Administrators report. He said he sent out code enforcement letters, worked on MFT 2018 audit and got it sent off. Ordered new spreader box from Illinois Power Equipment and attended meeting at YMCA.

Mayor Rennecker said there has been a lot of cleaning up in town. Liberty bank took down trailer on Decatur Street.

Jeff Hogge said he has noticed that our fines are considerably lower than the other towns in Pike County. He said after the fiscal year he would like to raise ours to \$150 instead of the current \$75. Pittsfield's fine \$185-\$250 per occurrences and Pleasant Hill's \$175 - \$200 per occurrences. Steve Schultz said he is pretty sure it hasn't increased in 30 years. All council was in favor of raising the fine.

Robert Snyder gave the Public Works Director Report. He said it has been a slow month. There was a water main break at Baptist Church and got it fixed. Got the truck from Township and waiting on spreader – received the box but nothing else.

Mayor Rennecker discussed the Police contract. He said he shared with Sheriff Greenwood that we were reducing the hours they spent here to keep the cost down. Sheriff Greenwood suggested extending the same contract through 2023. Steve Schultz

said he was ok with new proposed offer and made a motion to approve and Bob Dieker seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Steve Schultz – yes  
Scott Harris – yes  
Marynel Corton – yes  
Bruce Kendall – yes  
Bridget Cramsey – yes  
Bob Dieker – yes

Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Mayor Rennecker said we have a request to vacate easement on property owned by Ascend. The piece of property runs through the middle of the property. Originally the area was used for a parking lot but with their new addition the easement goes through the middle of building. Steve Schultz made motion to approve to vacate the easement and Bruce Kendall seconded the motion. Roll call taken:

Scott Harris – yes  
Marynel Corton – yes  
Bruce Kendall – yes  
Bridget Cramsey – yes  
Bob Dieker – yes  
Steve Schultz – yes

Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent to vacate the easement.

Mayor Rennecker and council discussed possible demolition of building at 844 Bainbridge Street. The backside of the building is collapsing and if it falls would probably cover part of neighboring lot with bricks. Mayor Rennecker said that Attorney Dan Beard has written a letter to Tad Oitker and asked council if they wanted to pursue and send letter. Bob Dieker said we don't have a choice and Steve Schultz said we should send letter and start litigation and have done before Apple festival. This has been on going for 2 years. Bruce Kendall said he agrees with them. Bruce Kendall said we need to make sure he gets the letter and should send registered. Robert Snyder said water runs to neighbors building and once the brick is exposed will need some kind of treatment on wall. Max Middendorf said masonry needs to be sealed with at least couple coats. Mayor Rennecker said will send letter out and work with attorney Beard.

Mayor Rennecker said the utility dump truck has started to smoke and could be costly to repair and thought about putting out proposals for bids on 2018 or newer truck. Steve Schultz made motion to put out bids and Marynel Corton seconded motion. Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Bridget Cramsey made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

