

CITY OF BALATON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
February 12, 2024, 7pm

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Balaton City Council was called to order at 7pm on Monday February 12, 2024, by Acting Mayor Greg Erickson
- 2) **ROLL CALL**
- a) **Present:** Acting Mayor Greg Erickson, Council Members: Dylan Fricke, Curt Paradis, Scott Wood
- b) **Absent:** Lonnie Lambertus
- c) **Also Present:** Sgt Eric Wallen-Lyon County Sheriff's Department, Kasey Holm-Fire Chief, Kimberly Wall-Clerk/Treasurer, Josh Torgeson-Public Works, Tom Grafft (ISG), Kyle Remeke (ISG), Mike Novitzki (ISG), Jacob Hively-Ambulance
- 3) **APPROVE MINUTES:** A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 08, 2024. Motion carried by all present.
- a) Amend December 19, 2023 minutes. Certificate of Deposit for unused Capital Outlay funds should include \$2,250.00 (street funds) as part of the \$9,890.00 CD for snowplow. A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to amend the minutes. Motion was carried by all present.
- 4) **FINANCIALS:**
- a) No questions or corrections. A motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Dylan Fricke to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried by all present.
- 5) KEH Inc – Ken did not show up to meet. Per Greg Erickson, Ken Holm is working on the redevelopment plan. No further details.
- 6) Mark Lapp – Greg Erickson advised that Victory Christian Church will donate \$1,000.00 for the demolition of Mark Lapp's garage. Mark Lapp signed a liability waiver form. A motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Curt Paradis to accept the signature on the liability waiver form. Per Kassey Holm (HMI), they will start the demolition once the alley freezes so there is no damage to the alley road. Per Kasey, all the garbage the steel must be cleaned out. The only thing HMI will remove/take away is building materials. Victory church will also order a dumpster and pay the entire bill. HMI bill will be paid by the \$1,000.00 donation and remainder balance, the city will pay.
- 7) **MTV Wireless – Eric Lynner** from Frist Independent Bank. Eric advised that the Frist Independent Bank would like to put dual internet providers in the bank. Eric requested that we put up an MTV antenna on the water tower to provide dual internet service to the bank. Greg Erickson suggested that MTV provide an estimate of how much it will cost and who will be paying the fee. Eric informed the council that First Independent Bank would pay all costs associated with putting the antenna on the water tower. Mike Novitzki informed the council about possible damage to the water tower by putting up an antenna. Greg Erickson advised that they would look into it.
- 8) **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – nothing**
- 9) **REPORTS – OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES**
- a) Water/Sewer/Garbage Delinquent Accounts – no shut offs.
- b) City Personnel – Employee Hours YTD – nothing
- 1) Scott Wood informed city clerk that the employee time sheets were on the one drive but are no longer there. City Clerk advised will put them back.
- c) Public Works:
- 1) Mike Novitzki from ISG formerly from KLM. Mike informed the council of his experience with the industry and how ISG would like the opportunity to work with Balaton on the upcoming infrastructure and be trusted to do the preliminary report for the city. Kyle Remeke spoke about his experiences within the industry and working with grants and long-term planning for future projects and cost. Tom Grafft discussed his approach of how they would put the preliminary report together; the challenges Balaton has with infrastructure including the costs for the projects. Greg Erickson thanked ISG for coming. No decision was made by the council.
- d) EDA - Monthly Report –\$30,000.00 check was written to EDA (budgeted). Greg Erickson informed the council that 3080 Eastbay Ave was sold.
- e) Lyon County Sheriff Department
- 1) Eric Wallen informed the council that the town had no major issues. Scott Wood asked Eric if there was a liquor certification (training) which would be a cost break on insurance. Eric said there is training available but it's informal. Eric said that if anyone is interested, to reach out to him.
- f) Liquor Store: Nothing
- g) Community Center: Flooring done. Balaton Construction will put the baseboards on in the upcoming week.
- h) Fire/Ambulance Department
- 1) Kasey Holm requested that the council amend last month's ALS fee. Fee should be \$1550.00. A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to rescind the ALS fees of \$1350.00. A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to approve the ALS fee to \$1,550.00. Motion carried by all present.
- 2) Relief Association Bylaws – bylaws will need to be rewritten because they went to PERA. Kasey is waiting for the state to provide the information. Kasey advised that there will no longer be any paid positions except for the treasure position. Kasey explained going forward, there will no longer be an audit.
- 3) 607 Truck (new). The Balaton Fire Department voted and wanted to purchase a skid unit and a flatbed for the truck. Skid unit will be \$10,900.00 and the flatbed will be \$10,500.00 for a total of \$21,400 to outfit truck. Kasey would like to use state funding \$12,909.50; Fire Department will contribute \$6,500.00 and possibly use budgeted capital outlay to fund the remainder balance. Kasey informed the council that there may be two (2) other donations coming in to help fund this project. The new 607 truck passed the pump test, will need to rebuild/replace gages. Scott Wood suggested that the fire department take the box off the old 607 and sell. The motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Curt Paradis to approve the purchase of the skid unit and flatbed for the new 607 truck. Motion carried by all present.
- i) Nuisance
- 1) Josh Torgeson spoke with Jansen and he would be okay to tow vehicles for the city per court order if needed. Josh informed the council that there are approximately 55 vehicles that are unlicensed and or not running on residents property in Balaton. Scott Wood suggested to start on a few properties at first and move forward with the nuisance project.

- 2) Kasey Holm told the council that he received a phone call about a pile of junk that they would like the Balaton Fire Department to burn. Kasey informed the caller that they will not burn junk piles within the city limits. Kasey advised the caller that if they burn the junk pile, the fire department will respond, and the party will be billed.

10) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) Resolutions
- 1) A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to accept the donation from SWIF of \$17,000.00 for the Community Center Floor project. Motion was carried by all present.
  - 2) A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to accept the donation from Balaton Chamber of Commerce of \$2,500 for the Community Center Floor project. Motion was carried by all present.
  - 3) A motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to accept the donation from The Balaton American Legion of \$5,000 for the Community Center Floor project. Motion was carried by all present.
- b) CD Renewals
- 1) A motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Curt Paradis to renew CD#6192 at Minnwest Bank for 9 months at 4.5 percent. Motion carried by all present.
  - 2) A motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Dylan Fricke to renew CD#6304 at First Independent Bank for 13 months at 4.43 percent. Motion carried by all present.
- c) Clerks Conference
- 1) A motion was made by Curt Paradis and seconded by Dylan Fricke to send the City Clerk to the Clerks Conference March 20-22, 2024, at St Cloud. The motion was approved by the majority. Scott Wood opposed.
- d) LMCIIT – City Clerk advised council that \$67,019.00 will be mailed this week. \$56,427.00 General and \$10,592.00 Liquor.

11) **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a) Juneteenth – a motion was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Dylan Fricke to accept Juneteenth as an official holiday. Motion carried by all present.

12) **MISCELLANEOUS:** nothing

- 1) Kasey advised the council the Jacob Hively received a donation of \$5,000.00 from the American Legion for the purchase of new Lifepak. The price of the Lifepak will be from donations. The motion was made by Dylan Fricke and seconded by Scott Wood to go ahead with the purchase the new lifepak. Motion carried by all present.

- 13) **ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Scott Wood and seconded by Curt Paradis. Motion was carried by all present. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

  
 Kimberly Wall, City Clerk-Treasurer

  
 Lonnie Lambertus, Mayor