

**CITY OF BRODHEAD
COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

Present: Mayor Pinnow, Aldermen Nyman, Bruce, Anderson and Fox. City Clerk Withee and City Attorney Michael Faust.

Mayor Pinnow called meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call shows all Aldermen present except Peach and Huntington

Minutes: Motion by Bruce to approve minutes from March 11, 2019 with corrections. Second by Nyman. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Pearl Island: Director Vogel stated that there hasn't been a lot of activity due to the weather. Information was given to them regarding another grant and they are beginning to work on the application. Previous grant will be completed June 30, 2019. Dam has been flooded and there is a section of road that has been washed out 3 times this year. They have been working on the removal of noxious weeds. They have approval from Decatur Township to change the entrance of the park. DLMR association is working on this.

Water & Light: no report

Senior/Community Center: Mayor Pinnow stated the grant was rescinded on March 7, 2019. Committee has been working on a community center for a long time. In 2014 they were advised that a grant was available for a senior center. The grant was only eligible for the senior center portion of the project. The grant was written by MSA and was submitted in May 2018. After grant was submitted there was a request from citizens that plans be changed from an existing building to a new building. September 2018 the city and the grant writer contacted the state and advised them about the community reaction and request from the community for a referendum. Department of Administration, David Pawlisch, said "the hair on back of my neck stood up" but they would wait until the referendum was decided. Plans were submitted to the state to make sure minimum requirements would be met. The design builder said that the plans met the requirements. State was aware January 2019 that plans had changed and they were given the plans. Committee was aware that the only portion funded would be for the senior center. DOA never said city was doing anything wrong. Several people mailed out approximately 1,500 letters to fundraise that did not have to be spent if the state would have let us know that this would not work. Some community members sent emails and contacted the state and then the state wanted a phone conference with the city clerk and mayor. They had a phone conference on March 7th and were advised that the grant was rescinded. Originally the state said we could go through the referendum. Committee tried to follow recommendation and requests of a group of citizens. They did that and then someone contacted the state to say we did something fraudulent. Every time we talked it was senior/community center. Everything we did we followed recommendation of attorney, engineer and grant writer. Hotel study was done and \$7,000 was contributed by Brodhead Foundation. Two companies have called back and said Brodhead would not work but when they said a community center would be built near they changed their mind and said that could increase the possibility that they may invest in Brodhead. If senior/community doesn't move forward we have less chance of a hotel or other businesses. Room tax could have been used for economic development and promotion of the city. Engineer said that no one has ever contacted the state that he is aware of to complain about a grant. They are concerned that if we apply for a grant again this could hurt our chances. Now we have nothing. Senator Ringhand and Spreitzer were contacted to see if there was anything that could be done. It is frustrating that they waited until 2-3 weeks before the election to advise the city that the grant would be rescinded. . Nyman asked if this was a group of people or an individual. Pinnow said there was a response from the DOA to have people stop calling them as they were

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being swamped. Nothing underhanded or fraudulent was done by the city but people have made the city look bad.

Attorney Faust presented information regarding the referendum question and the explanation of a yes/no response.

Mayor Pinnow stated that one of the top four answers of the comprehensive plan was to build a senior/community center. Part of the goals of the comprehensive plan is that in the next 10 years we build a community center and hotel. The comprehensive plan is living guide to the city. Citizens have already expressed that they want senior/community center and hotel if that has any bearing on the council as to what we want to do going forward. The comprehensive plan is a requirement of the state. Fox stated that the survey in the comprehensive plan was given out in many areas of the public. Pinnow stated that the committee met from September to May. Nyman said we can't grow if we don't get grants to help us anymore. Bruce stated that the wrangling from the community is about how projects are being paid for and the possibility of raising taxes. Fox said that the way people are going about it that haven't been there for all of meetings are basing decisions on opinions and not facts. Funding has been withdrawn and is not there now because of the issues in community and negativity. This is not how you get things done. Issue with funding was always going to go to the public there was never an option to not go to referendum. Bruce stated at best only partial funding was accounted for the letter stated that the committee hoped maybe someone that is rich will donate money for the project. There was no concrete business plan and the fear was we would borrow money and defer cost to future generations. Not against doing public projects it's about how the city is going to pay for it. How about coming up with a plan and then do fundraising. Pinnow said there have been many meetings with the public constantly telling them everything they were doing was wrong. Can't get anything done working like that. Nyman asked if the airport faced as much opposition as the city did. Bruce stated that the airport never had a plan to borrow money. Bruce said council was asked they would support only a senior center and they said no, this seems disingenuous. Pinnow said state knew that and they didn't say that the city shouldn't move forward. The city didn't do anything underhanded, we couldn't get a plan because people argued all the time that it wasn't right. It would have cost the tax payers \$0.63/\$1,000 to pay for the project. Said at the beginning if the tax rate would have raised taxes too high the project would not have been done. Bruce stated that in an open meeting Pinnow said that they didn't know how to fundraise. Fox asked Bruce to give us a business plan. Bruce said the proper way is to come up with a plan, present that to public and then start fundraising. Pinnow said we applied for the grant when the former fitness center was in place and then people came forward to say they didn't like that. Where were they prior to the grant being submitted? Changed plan and state didn't say we couldn't do that. Moot point because we can't move forward because we lost the grant. Bruce said that now the committee needs to get together and fundraise and then go for a grant. Pinnow said that this will be decided after the advisory referendum. We lost \$500,000 so we can't move forward.

Public Safety: Chief Hughes said there are no licenses or permits at this time.

Chief Hughes presented the intergovernmental agreement between the Town of Decatur and the City of Brodhead. The town approved the agreement at previous meeting. Motion by Anderson to approve the contract as presented. Second by Fox. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Chief Hughes presented Resolution 2019-004 Establishing Criteria to Change an Alcohol Establishments

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Presumption. Chief Hughes reached out to DOR for guidance. Public Safety has reviewed for several months. Public Safety does have concerns but given the criteria in the resolution they were confident that this would still deter underage consumption of alcohol. Discussion by council. Motion by Fox to table Resolution 2019-004. Second by Bruce. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Chief Hughes presented Resolution 2019-005 Amending Resolution 2016-016 to Allow Trapping on Pearl Island Corridor. Pearl Island and Public Safety recommend approval. This will lift restriction and allow trapping, section 3 describes the type of traps that can be used. There is a limit to the number of people that can trap. This is not allowed in the portion of Pearl Island within the city and a permit will be required. Nonresidents will be charged a fee of \$20. Discussion by council. Motion by Nyman to approve Resolution 2019-005 as presented. Second by Bruce. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Chief Hughes presented Ordinance 2019-002 Amending 290-14 and 290-16 to Prohibit Drive up Alcohol Sales and is asking to table this item. City attorney made recommendations and he will take this back to Public Safety Committee. Motion by Fox to table Ordinance 2019-002. Second by Anderson. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Chief Hughes presented information regarding the Livescan fingerprint grant. Did not go to finance committee because the notice from the state was not timely and they were given only 30 days to accept. Discussion by council. Motion by Fox to accept the grant request as presented. Second by Anderson. Four ayes. Motion carried.

BID/Revitalization: Pinnow stated that the annual report will be a future agenda item.

Finance Committee: Nyman made a motion to approve the following checks: BID CK 1457 to 1458 - \$2,220.96, Sewer Fund CK 8131 to 8146 - \$55,948.46 General CK 77867 to 77949 - \$1,680,722.79. Second by Anderson. Roll Call 4 ayes. 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Nyman to approve the February 2019 treasurer's report as presented. Second by Anderson. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk Withee presented Resolution 2019-003 to Commit Funds regarding the Pearl Island Recreational Corridor. Finance Committee recommends approval. Discussion by council. Motion by Anderson to approve Resolution 2019-003 as presented. Second by Nyman. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Report: Mayor Pinnow stated there will be a candidate forum Tuesday, March 26th from 7:00-8:30pm at the library, the next collaborative meeting will be May 22nd at High School.

Future Agendas: BID annual report, 2019-002 ordinance change

Attorney Report: no report

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Fox. Second by Nyman. Five ayes. Adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Douglas A. Pinnow, Mayor Approved this 8th day of April 2019.
Teresa Withee, City Clerk