

City of Medora
Minutes of Special Meeting

April 15, 2020

(Subject to Council Review and Approval)

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Mayor Todd Corneil. The meeting was conducted via Zoom teleconference. Present were Council members Doug Ellison, Tracy Sexton, Kinley Slauter, and John Tczap. Also attending were Jim Arthaud and Marcia Lamb.

Comfort Stations

There has been concern expressed about the lack of adequate restroom facilities due to the various facility closures. Mayor Corneil obtained three bids from companies who provide portable comfort stations which come in a self-contained unit, and they have talked about possible locations. After the bids were reviewed and discussed, Jim Arthaud confirmed his support of action to get public restroom facilities available quickly, he stated that he has talked to the State and he feels that the State and/or the County will support the City financially under the health disaster declaration. Arthaud also voiced his commitment to assistance through use of County resources as needed and available. Arthaud and Corneil confirmed that the objective is to provide "comfort stations" that have toilet and hand washing capabilities, are heated, and are well maintained. Ellison asked where the comfort station would be located, Corneil responded that the plan is to put the unit in the area of the Water Plant where it is visible and there is access to power. Ellison moved to approve the G&G Bid to provide a comfort station for three weeks, thereafter subject to review and renewal as needed. Tczap seconded. Discussion included questions about when the City comfort station can be opened. Motion passed unanimously. The discussion of the situation with the City comfort station was resumed, Slauter and Ellison asked when the facility can be opened and what the issues would be. Corneil advised that the building is not heated and it is not constructed for cold weather operation so we normally open mid-May and close after Labor Day as the weather allows, and we do not have seasonal employees to assist in maintenance. Ellison moved to authorize Mayor Corneil to hire seasonal help now to maintain comfort stations, and to determine what would be required and proceed with what is required if reasonable to open the City comfort station as soon as possible. Tczap seconded. Discussion included questions on what arrangements can be made for coverage with current employees and other potential seasonal workers, including covering overtime as needed, and clarifying what would be needed to open the City comfort station in colder weather. Motion passed unanimously. Corneil advised that he has an electrician coming this afternoon to evaluate what would be needed to get the City comfort station operating.

Letter of support for the proposed river crossing project

The city received a request for support for the Little Missouri River Crossing Safety and Mobility Project. Jim Arthaud explained the objective of the project and how it will have a positive impact on commerce, emergency services access, and tourism. The County is asking for City support of the project as the County is applying for grants and funding. Arthaud answered questions about the location of the project, what impacts it will have, the possible use of eminent domain, etc. Some of the verbiage in the letter was discussed and updated/changed. Slauter moved to provide a letter of support, as revised, for the Little Missouri River Crossing Safety and Mobility Project, Tczap seconded. Ellison expressed his concerns with possible use of eminent domain. Motion passed three to one. Mayor Corneil will also provide a letter of support as was requested.

Slauter moved the meeting be adjourned, Tczap seconded. Mayor Corneil declared the meeting adjourned without objection at 10:15 a.m.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be May 12 at 6:00 pm.

Attest: _____ Todd Corneil, Mayor

Attest: _____ Gary Ridenhower, Auditor