

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 15, 2019**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on October 15, 2019 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Sid Berg, Nathan Berseth, Tim Campbell, Rollie Ehler and Dan Thompson. Others in attendance were Administration Personnel Hage and DeVal; State's Attorney Kummer and a Daily News Reporter.

A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Campbell to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.

MINIMUM SALE PRICE HEARING

Erickson distributed a listing of the proposed minimum sale prices. 12 parcels were taken back this year; two evictions were served but one of those has since repurchased. Comments were heard from the following:

Mayor Leo Griffen and Council Member Andrew Rowland were present from Dwight City. The City has concerns with the proposed value on the Dwight property and requested the value be lowered - the building is non-livable and should be torn down. They will contact the City Attorney about a City Ordinance for condemning property.

Following discussion a motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Campbell to approve the Minimum Sale Prices as amended. Vote was unanimous. (Copy attached to minutes).

JILL BREUER - 911 PHONE SYSTEM

A proposal has been received from the State to go on their new phone system; this happened a day before signing a contract for a phone system which was authorized by the Commission in September. The project will be put on hold until we get firm numbers from the State.

ASSESSORS OFFICE - BUSINESS EXEMPTION AND 10-YEAR PILOT

John Rieger Seed, LLC - Walcott - Application for a 5-year PILOT for a new business project. Mr Rieger was present. A motion was made by Campbell and seconded by Berg to approve the application. Vote was unanimous.

Keith Hage, Hage Properties, LLC - Keith Hage has applied to the City of Colfax for a business incentive for a building he is constructing; he has requested a 10-year PILOT. With the length of the incentive being over 5 years, the Commission and the School District have to be notified of the incentive and have the opportunity to elect not to participate. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve the PILOT plan as presented. Vote was unanimous.

Farm Exemptions - Auditor Hage reported that at Annual Conferences held last week in Bismarck, Linda Leadbetter from the State Tax Department informed Auditor's that the Farm Exemption Application should be available by mid to late October.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Personnel in attendance were Engineer Sedler and Ron Hohenstern.

NDDOT Maintenance Certification - Requesting the Chairman sign the annual DOT Maintenance Certification for County Federal Aid Projects; the certification states that Richland County is properly maintaining projects that had federal aid for construction. A motion was made by Berg and seconded by Campbell authorizing the Chairman to sign the NDDOT Maintenance Certification. Vote was unanimous.

LoadPass Permits - Commissioner Berseth and Thompson received updates at Annual Conference last week in Bismarck; more discussion may be needed as there are still questions about customizing the fee scheduled for Harvest Permits in our region. The motion made in August was to implement the Load Pass Permit System effective January 1, 2020 so will wait and see what they come back with.

Harvest Permits - Due to harvest conditions, do we want to stay at \$500 for 30 days, or look into a 60 day permit, or some other options. Following discussion a motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to extend the Harvest Permit to 60 days for this year only. Vote was unanimous. Sedler will follow-up with the Highway Patrol.

Mud on Roadways - Our current policy is vague for mud or debris on roadways. State's Attorney Kummer was asked to review and Draft a new Ordinance. There was an incident with mud on CR8 this week; Sedler will contact the individual and inform him of the existing Ordinance.

Motor Grader - Lease is up on the MG6; requesting authorization to advertise for bids. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to authorize advertising for bids for a motor grader. Vote was unanimous.

Misc. -

- plowed last Saturday
- working on mowing ditch tops
- doing work at Mooreton Pond this week
- we have one bridge underwater with all the recent rains

DOT Meeting in Bismarck - Commissioners Berseth and Thompson attended the meeting along with Auditor Hage. Hage also attended a seminar by the Prairie Dog Bill Writer, Senator Rich Wardner - he has ideas for infrastructure funding, using Legacy Fund "Earnings". His ideas may be introduced in the next Legislative Session.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE continued

- notification for ND Joint Water Convention December 3-6

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October

- 17 5-County Meeting
- 19 Battle Cross Monument Ceremony

November

- 5 Commission Meeting
- 5 Department Head Meeting
- 19 Commission Meeting
- 19 Tax Sale 10:00 AM

Being there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:25 A.M.

ATTEST: 
Leslie Hage
Auditor/Administrator

 CHAIRPERSON
Danny D. Thompson
Board of Richland County Commissioners