

BELT  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

October 1, 2025

7:00 PM

The first regularly scheduled meeting of October 2025 was called to order beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Mayor James M. Olson; Clerk-Treasurer Lynn Schilling; Council Members including Paul Heikkila, Sally Miller, April Wells, Corbin Keaster, Michelle Stinson, and Beck Gorton; members of the public including Travis Page and DNRC Flood Plain Administration representatives Traci Sears and Assistant Ryan.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

The Minutes from meetings on September 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> were both approved by unanimous vote of those present; the claims and warrants were also reviewed, approved, and released for payment by a unanimous vote of those present.

The Complaint Log was reviewed with no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS: Traci Sears of DNRC Flood Plain was present to strongly advise the city not to withdraw from the NFIP and to make sure that the 16 citizens that she claims are covered by FEMA Flood Insurance are aware of the city's decisions with respect to participation in FEMA's NFIP. Sears continued presenting an outline of reasons against pulling out of the NFIP and encouraging the city to get back into the program as soon as possible.

The Council further discussed the city's decision to pull out of the NFIP (cited in Resolution 823, previously approved and adopted by the Town Council.) Discussed was the probability that flood plain insurance will always be available regardless of the City of Belt's participation in FEMA's NFIP since it is a big money maker for insurance companies. The obstacles of having a dike through town that is not recognized by FEMA was also discussed, as well as the fact that FEMA refuses to remap the City of Belt's flood plain area to have an accurate map on which to base flood plain building decisions.

Codi Heikkila was present to present a list of surplus sale items (attached) that he proposed putting out for public auction sealed bid. The Council approved the list with the exception of the hydraulic sand box which the city will keep for now, the speed bumps purchased with SB-536 Road Funds, deciding to attempt to sell them back to Normont, and the 4 Victorian Street Lamps deciding to install them. Minimum bids were assigned to the remaining items, and a posting period of 2 weeks was approved by the Council.

OLD BUSINESS: Mayor Olson appointed a committee that will interview potential candidates for the Clerk-Treasurer position. The committee will consist of Mayor Olson, Council Members April Wells and Becky Gorton, and Lynn Schilling, former Clerk-Treasurer. Olson also stated that Travis

Page, candidate in the upcoming election for Mayor of Belt, could sit in on the interviews for observation purposes only.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT: Codi Heikkila reported that the water tanks were being cleaned soon, that he would soon produce a list of campers, RVs, trailers, and equipment that are illegally parked by City Ordinance after Oct. 1 and get all of them tagged. He closed in stating that a large pile (at least 25 yards) of road fill belonging to the city has been used and not replaced by water project contractor JR Civil.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Council Member Paul Heikkila reported that the huge amount of asphalt pieces piled at the burn pile by JR Civil is hazardous waste and must be disposed of

Council Member Sally Miller reported that she attended the public hearing regarding injecting jet fuel into the aquifer and stated that public comment could be given for some time before the proposal can pass.

CLERK-TREASURER INPUT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: None

PUBLIC INPUT: None

There being no further business to attend to, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM.

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Approved by Mayor James M. Olson

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Attested to and submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Lynn Schilling