** TOWNER COUNTY**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**Doug Berg, Chairman**

**David Lagein, Vice Chairman**

**Mike Weisz**

**Scott Boe**

**Ken Teubner**

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Cando, ND 58324

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**TOWNER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

August 6, 2019

The Towner County Commissioners met in regular session on August 6, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the county courthouse. Chairman Doug Berg called the meeting to order. Present were Vice Chairman David Lagein, Commissioners Mike Weisz, Ken Teubner and Scott Boe.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Teubner and seconded by Boe. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2019 regular meeting was made by Weisz and seconded by Teubner. All Commissioners voted aye, motion carried.

Commissioners went over the preliminary budget that was presented by the County Auditor. Discussion was held over several items including a sheriff’s vehicle, the Law Enforcement Center budget, and a line item to help cover the rising cost of equipment.

Road projects were discussed with road supervisor Kevin Rinas. Rinas has obtained approximately 30,000 yards of gravel which is being crushed at this time.

Sheriff Kennedy clarified that the budget line in the 2020 budget for the vehicle would not be spent on other items if not used for the vehicle. Kennedy talked about the new overweight permits being issued. Kennedy also stated he and emergency manager Lori Beck were working on options for 911 dispatch and jail services that could potentially save the taxpayers money.

Jessica Tagestad, Wold Engineering presented an estimate for work completed on the Rock Lake bridge project. Motion by Lagein, seconded by Boe to approve the estimate for payment for work completed to date to Wesslen Construction for the Rock Lake bridge project. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed. Wetlands for the project east of Cando was discussed. Mitigation for the project was discussed. The Commissioners would like to mitigate as little land as possible. This may increase the timeline of the project. Engineers discussed taking a curve out of the project for safety purposes.

Brandon Meyer and Carl Solberg from the Soil Conservation were on hand to explain the reason for the large increase in their mill levy for 2020. Their mill levy was going from $30,000 to $70,000. Meyer stated they were looking to purchase a tractor and hire summer employee.

Motion by Lagein, seconded by Weisz to pay the bills. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Marci Plemel, TC Public Health, was on hand to update commissioners on community grants available. Plemel was looking for suggestions from the community on uses for the grant funds. Plemel also stated they were installing a syringe kiosk for community syringe disposal. Plemel explained some of the issues they are dealing with concerning addiction and recovery. Plemel also left a defibrillator with the County.

Bill Voight stated heat pumps had been installed in the States Attorney’s and Tax Equalization Directors office. He is still working on estimates for the roof at the armory. States Attorney Josh Frey addressed some concerns the American Legion Post was having with the County license agreement. The Legion wanted to be notified of issues with inspection and a clause stating no recurring or monthly payments added to the license.

Bonnie Good was on hand to update the Commissioners on a meeting that was held with the State Tax Commissioners office concerning seven complaints that were filed with them concerning the Towner County Tax Director. Linda Leadbetter met with Good and Commission Chair Berg. Good stated that she had purchased a device to record and video future meetings. Future meetings will also be held at the Courthouse with a Commissioner present. Good stated the State was going to recommend the people making complaints about Good’s behavior should make those complaints known to the Towner County Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Lagein, seconded by Teubner to sign a certification of significant community support for the LEC in order to aid them in getting a grant. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

Motion by Lagein, seconded by Weisz to approve the preliminary budget. All Commissioners voted aye. The final budget hearing was set for October 1, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Weisz, seconded by Boe to appoint Josh Frey, Joni Morlock, David Lagein, Rollie Bjornstad and Chris Doehler to the committee to draft the home rule charter. All Commissioners voted aye. Motion passed.

The next meeting was set for September 10th.

The meeting adjourned by motion.

ATTEST:

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Joni M. Morlock Doug Berg, Chairman

Towner County Auditor/Treasurer Towner County Board of Commissioners