Barnes County Commission
October 15, 2024
Valley City, ND 58072

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 with Bill Carlblom, Cindy Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson present. Chairman Bill Carlblom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., roll call was taken, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the agenda was reviewed.

Planning & Zoning

Jessica Jenrich presented a 145' variance setback application from Maynard Flatt in Baldwin Township NE¼ 14-143-57, Parcel 04-1410100 for a shop building. Shawn Olauson made a motion to approve the setback; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting yes. Building permits were reviewed.
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Highway Department

Jamie Smith discussed the Maintenance Certification and County Federal Aid Project that gets signed annually. Mr. Aafedt appeared along with Jamie to discuss the amount of increased traffic and dust control on a county road that he lives by. Mr. Aafedt has put chloride on the road at his own expense the last three years. There is an issue of speeding and running a stop sign. He is asking for help in controlling the speed at which vehicles are traveling on the road and suggesting the county have the Sheriff's Office do more patrolling on this road. Jamie will work on more signage and look to see if grant funding is available to help. Bob Blackburn was introduced as a new employee. There is one more applicant Jamie is hoping to interview. The back window on the JCV was broken from a rock that happened while mowing. A semi dumping a load of rocks tipped over due to being over center. The driver was not injured.

Auditor's Office

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the October 1, 2024 minutes as presented; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote. Julie gave an update on the mail ballots. Barbara Selchert is the new employee hired for payroll and HR duties.

Commission Discussion

Pete Paulson and Bill met with Tammy at VSO to encourage her to work on the office dispatching the van driver and encourage her to keep looking for another driver. One option may be to have dispatch take calls after hours for the driver. That would lighten the load of Tammy having to take after hour calls. Tammy and Becky are both doing a good job in the VSO office. Development Corporation reported a day care closed with short notice. Some people contacted them about finding a new space for daycare. The city will build a new service center where Valley Equipment currently sits. Shawn Olauson attended the Social Services meeting. They are talking about new vehicles and hiring five new people for their call center. The Historical Society has sold the Lowell Bushing house. Wes was interviewed on Prairie Public Radio regarding the WWII Heritage City designation. The Daffodil Project was going to be done at the library, but they were told to stop. He was asked if the courthouse might have a place for the project if they couldn't continue it at the library. Shawn gave updates on the projects being worked on by the Water Resource District. Shawn spoke on The Daffodil Project. Cindy Schwehr attended the Airport meeting. They are getting the facility winter ready. Jamen from the Weed Board will spray weeds for them. Fuel sales have been good. Finances are stable. They are working on looking for federal money for an electrical vault, apron rehab, state cameras for weather. The hill slide affected their fence. Vicky Lovell's meetings are all coming up this week. Library will start bringing their books back on October 16th through October 17th. The soft opening went well. Regional will be having their quarterly meeting coming up.

With no further business, Shawn Olauson made a motion, seconded by Vicky Lovell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Julie Mindt
Barnes County Interim Auditor