

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 with Cindy Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Bill Carlbom, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson present. Chairman Carlbom 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 – Conditional Use Permit & Variance

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Conditional Use Permit – Agricultural to Mining from Knife River Materials / Steff J Basgaard (Sibley Trail Township, SW ¼ SE ¼ 19-143-58). Shawn Olauson moved to approve the application; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Trees 70’ – 75’ from center of county road from Roy M Aafedt (Getchell Township, SE ¼ 8 & NE ¼ 17-141-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to deny the application; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Auditor – Minutes / Local Permit Application

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the August 1, 2023 minutes; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pete Paulson moved to approve the August 8, 2023 Special Budget meeting minutes; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the Application for a Local Permit from Sodbuster Club Inc; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

VSO Journal Entry

Cindy Schwehr moved to make a Journal Entry of funds from Fund 01 General Fund to Fund 11 Veterans Service in the amount of \$70,000 to remedy the budgeted deficit for 2023; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell voting “no”.

Rescind Obligation of SLFRF

Cindy Schwehr moved to rescind the obligation of up to \$16,000 from the State & Local Fiscal Recovery funds, originally intended to cover the Clausen Springs Chip Seal shortfall; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Harold J Rotunda, CPA – 2019 Audit

Harold J Rotunda, CPA, appeared to discuss the issues presented by the State Auditor regarding the 2019 audit. The Commission agreed that City-County Health District is part of the County, as well as the Airport and Water Resources, and that City-County Health District should be included as a component unit of the County.

Commission Discussion

Commission discussion included portfolio updates.

Department Head Meeting

Jason Thiel presented a synopsis of the Gallagher Salary Study results. Department Heads presented updates.

With no further business, Shawn Olauson made a motion, seconded by Cindy Schwehr, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Bill Carlbom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor