

**City of Argusville - Special Meeting
March 23, 2020**

Mayor Darren Wetzel called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM with the following in attendance: Dave Becker, Jenna Saewert, Rod Clouse, Mary Howatt, Mike Lovejoy, Deputy Craig Keller, and Gary Tandsater. There were twelve others attending via Zoom webinar. Absent: Wayne Hagemeister.

Council discussed topics of concern regarding the Covid-19 outbreak.

- A city emergency declaration is not required for federal or state purposes since President Trump declared this a national emergency and Governor Burgum gave an executive order; however, a city declaration frees up city emergency funds, if needed.
- Utility payments, late fees, and shut offs will be handled on a case by case basis as needed.
- Medical first responder accessibility: Deputy Keller explained Cass County Sheriff's Department plans.
- Assistance for elderly/vulnerable adults: Howatt called families not on email list. No help was requested. Lunches are available for delivery to vulnerable adults. Contact Mary if needs arise or to be added to lunch delivery.
- Contacted daycares. Justine's Little Joeys has two school-aged spaces open. Hand sanitizer is needed.
- Halstad Telephone is setting up an internet hotspot at the Community Center with accessibility from the parking lot that can be used if needed. Other internet needs have not been requested.
- Community Events: Most pressing needs are the Tax Equalization and April City Council meetings on April 6. Howatt will check with County about how to handle the Equalization Meeting.

Motion Clouse – Second Becker to approve the Emergency Declaration in response to the public health crisis resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), to recover from the situation, reduce hardship, and initiate the appropriate relief actions and mitigation measures by departments and agencies of local government to limit the hardships and impact of this emergency upon the citizens of Argusville.

Aye: Becker, Clouse, Saewert. Nay: none. Absent: Hagemeister. Carried.

Flood outlook this year currently expects to be similar to last year's conditions/levels. Recent lack of precipitation/slow melt is in our favor. Wetzel provided update on supplies; pumps and hoses will be prepped for activation. Lovejoy will provide sandbag machine if needed. Health procedures will need to be considered if sandbagging becomes necessary. Record keeping must include volunteers, equipment hours, and operator hours. For all equipment, invoice expectations will be outlined at the outset.

Motion Becker – Second Saewert to approve the Emergency Declaration and ordered the activation and utilization of the Cass County Emergency Operations Plan, its procedures, attachments, and appendices to recover from the situation, develop a detailed damage assessment, reduce hardship, and initiate the appropriate relief actions and mitigation measures by departments and agencies of local government to limit the hardships and impact of this emergency upon the citizens of Argusville.

Aye: Becker, Clouse, Saewert. Nay: none. Absent: Hagemeister. Carried.

Discussion about lift stations in response to current Covid-19 and flood situations. Woods monitors pumps daily and is notified when problems arise. Area sewer systems have had problems with residents flushing non-flushable items. A notice will be sent to the city and placed on the website about this.

Meeting adjourned 7:46 PM.

Minutes subject to review and approval.

Mary Howatt - Auditor