

# City Of Rothsay Council Minutes...

119 2nd ST SW, ROTHSA, MN  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
January 7, 2019 @7:00 p.m.

PRIOR TO THE COUNCIL MEETING, AT 6:45 PM, NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR, JOSEPH TILLMAN; AND NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS, LES NELSON, DARYL SCHLEETER, TULSA-LEIGH KUGLER AND DARRELL TOLLEFSON WERE SWORN IN BY CITY CLERK/TREASURER LISA ZIMMERMAN.

Mayor Joseph Tillman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.  
1.0 Call to Order: The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Joseph Tillman at 7:00 p.m. Council Members present: Les Nelson, Daryl Schleeter, Tulsa-Leigh Kugler and Darrell Tollefson. Others present: JT Jensen, Rothsay Fire Chief, Jordan Barry, Eric Larson and Lisa Zimmerman.  
2.0 Public Forum: No Public Forum.  
3.0 Approval of Agenda: After One Addition, A MOTION was made by Nelson, seconded by Kugler to approve the agenda. Carried.

## REGIONAL REPORT

Rothsay, Minn.  
2019 Winter  
Edition

PAGE 7

## FISHERMEN...

*A True Trophy Fish Happens  
Once In A Lifetime.*

When You Lure One In, Bring It To

## Don's Taxidermy

To Preserve It For A Lifetime.



### If You Catch A Big Fish...

After You Have Landed Your Fish, Take Care Of It. Wrap It Securely And Get It To Us As Soon After The Catch As Possible. If You Must Freeze The Fish Before Bringing It To Our Shop, Be Very Careful With The Fins And Tail.

Trophy Fish Brought To Us This Spring And Summer Will Be On Your Wall By Fall.

**WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON  
PROMPT, PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE AND A TROPHY YOU  
WILL BE PROUD OF!**



Located At  
807 4-1/2 Avenue NE,  
PO Box 352  
Barnesville, MN 56514  
**218 354-7431**

## 4.0 ROTHSA FIRE

DEPARTMENT:  
• Fire Chief, PT Jensen, reported the fire department will be awarding three lifesaving awards on Saturday, January 12th, at 6:30pm at the Rothsay Powerhouse prior to bingo.  
• Four members will be attending training courses February 16th-17th in Mahomen.

• Jensen has been in contact with Lake Region Electric Coop (LREC), who has agreed to donate a generator to the Fire Hall for emergency power outage situations.

4.1 FIRE REPORT: Chief Jensen reported there were a total of eight calls in the month of December; five medical, two rescues and one rescue that had been called off.

## 5.0 EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

### 5.1 JORDAN BARRY:

• Barry reported Well #5 is a year past its scheduled maintenance to be done by Thein Well. MOTION to approve the work made by Schleeter, seconded by Nelson, not to exceed \$8,250.00 including parts and labor. Carried.

• Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) has been in town testing the City's water. The water is near breaking point which concludes it is almost perfectly balanced.

• The wastewater pump is close to completion.

• Barry will obtain quotes for a hitch for the new City pickup for the February meeting.

• Barry will be attending MRWA annual conference on March 5th-7th.  
• Lightspeed Electric will be replacing the photo eye at the prairie chicken statue.

## 5.2 ERIC LARSON:

• Larson reported numerous vehicles have been an issue during the snow removal process. Any vehicle parked on City streets during snow removal will be towed at the owner's expense.

• Larson will be attending plumbing continuing education class on February 1st.

• The new cutting edges for the snow plow have been received.

• Larson will be gone January 9th and January 17th.

## 5.3 LISA ZIMMERMAN:

• Zimmerman reported a dividend in the amount of \$840.00 was received from League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT).

• Zimmerman was contacted by a representative of the Fergus Falls Daily Journal. The Progress Magazine is published in February of each year and contains stories and photos about progress in Fergus Falls and surrounding communities. MOTION by Tollefson, seconded by Kugler to approve. Carried. Zimmerman will visit with the school to see if they are interested in sharing a full page and to split the cost of \$999.00.

## 6.0 NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Resolution No. 2019-1 Official Depository, Newspaper, Attorney, and Acting Mayor: MOTION by Nelson, seconded by Schleeter to accept Resolution No. 2019-1, stating the City of Rothsay's official Depository as Farmers State Bank in Rothsay; official Newspaper as the Barnesville Record Review; official City Attorney as Sarah M. Wear of Ohnstad Twichell; and appoint Darrell Tollefson as Acting Mayor. The resolution also states the appointed parties are subject to change anytime throughout the year with full council approval and a 30 day written notice of change to the affected party. Carried unanimously.

6.2 Resolution No. 2019-2 Regarding Access to City of Rothsay Checking and Savings Accounts: MOTION to accept Resolution No. 2019-2 made by Kugler, seconded by Nelson appointing Mayor Joseph Tillman, Acting Mayor Darrell Tollefson, and Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Zimmerman as official signers for all city accounts. Carried unanimously.

6.3 Township Fire Meeting Date: The Township fire meeting will be held Monday February 11th, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Rothsay City Hall.

6.4 Stonehenge Enterprises Building Official Contract: A MOTION was made by Schleeter, seconded by Kugler to accept the contract as presented, using



payment option C. Carried.

6.5 COMSTOCK Service Agreement Contract: The contract was presented in two phases, but needs additional updates. A special meeting will be held once adjustments are made for final approval.

6.6 Addition to the Agenda, 214 1st Ave NW: Numerous complaints have been made in regards to the safety of the structure, and person(s) using the structure as a livable dwelling. The owners have not yet obtained a permit for the work to be done. To protect the health and safety of the occupants and the community, a MOTION was made by Tollefson, seconded by Kugler to move forward with obtaining a court order for the removal of the occupants, as well as all other code violations, within reason. Carried.

## 7.0 OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 Rothsay Event Center: Tillman encouraged the rest of council to come up with some ideas for incentives for the residents who will be affected by the tax levy for use of the facility.

7.2 The Prairie Addition: No update.

7.3 City Hall Renovation: Renovations are near completion. A council table and chairs will be looked into for purchase.

8.0 Approval of December 7, 2018 Council Minutes: MOTION was made by Tollefson, seconded by Tillman to approve. Carried.

9.0 Present & Approve December Financial Statements and Hand-Payables: MOTION by Tollefson, seconded by Kugler to approve as presented. Carried.

10.0 Present & Approve January Accounts Payables: MOTION by Schleeter, seconded by Nelson to approve as presented. Carried.

11.0 MOTION to adjourn by Tollefson, seconded by Kugler, and carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

## EDA HIGHLIGHTS:

Appoint 2019 Officers: 2019 Officers as presented, President, Darrell Tollefson; Vice-President, Tulsa-Leigh Kugler; Secretary/Treasurer, Lisa Zimmerman; and board members, Joseph Tillman, Les Nelson, and Daryl Schleeter. MOTION by Tillman, seconded by Schleeter. Carried.

RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THE ROTHSA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IS A SEPARATE ENTITY FROM THE CITY OF ROTHSA AND HAS ITS OWN FUNDING. THE CITY DOES NOT FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE EDA.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Lisa Zimmerman,  
City Clerk/Treasurer  
(January 28, 2019)

## Sesquicentennial Farm Applications Due March 1

Minnesota Farm Bureau's Sesquicentennial Farm program will honor Minnesota families who have owned their farms for at least 150 years. Since the Sesquicentennial Farm program began in 2008, over 225 farms have been recognized. The Sesquicentennial Farm program recognizes family farms according to the following qualifications:

1) The farm must be at least 150 years old this year (2019) according to the abstract of title, land patent, original deed, county land records, court file in registration proceedings or other authentic land records. Please do not send originals or copies of records.

2) Your family must have owned the farm for 150 years or more. "Family" is defined as parents,

grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, first cousins and direct in-laws (father, mother, brother, sister, daughter, son-in-law).

3) Continuous residence on farm is not required, but ownership must be continuous.

4) The farm should consist of 50 or more acres and currently be involved in agricultural production.

A commemorative certificate signed by Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation President Kevin Paap, Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Peterson and Governor Tim Walz will be awarded to qualifying families, along with an outdoor sign signifying Sesquicentennial Farm recognition.

Applications are available by writing Sesquicentennial Farms, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, P.O. Box 64370, St. Paul, MN 55164; emailing info@fbmn.org; or calling 651-768-2100. Applications are also available online at fbmn.org/farm-recognition. Deadline for application is March 1. Previously recognized families should not reapply.

Century Farms are not automatically recognized as Sesquicentennial Farms. Families must apply to receive Sesquicentennial Farm recognition. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to work with county agriculture societies and county fair boards on local recognition of recipients. Recipients will be announced at the beginning of June.

To see a list of previously recognized Sesquicentennial Farms in Minnesota, visit fbmn.org/pages/farm-recognition.



## We Need Your News...

We Are Presently Looking For A Public Spirited Individual To Cover Local News In The Rothsay Community. If You Would Be Interested In Coordinating A Few Stories And Snapping A Few Photographs Each Month, Contact Us At The Record-Review Office In Barnesville, 218 354-2606.

• If You Have News, A Birth To Report, An Upcoming Wedding Or An Obituary For A Loved One, Mail Your Information To Box 70, Barnesville, MN 56514 Or To Box 203, Rothsay, MN 56579;

Better Yet, E-Mail Us At newsrecordreview@bvillemn.net, Subject Line: Rothsay News.

• Or Simply Call Us At 218 354-2606 And Give Us The Information Over The Phone Or Enough Information So We Can Assign A Reporter To The Story.

## Rothsay Regional Report

PO Box 203, Rothsay, MN 56579 • 218 354-2606



## Moving The Hunting Dates...

Life got in my way for the 2017 Colorado elk season. Originally I had been slated to be in Elk Springs for the week before Thanksgiving. Although I have killed some of my best bulls in October, when the ranch was operating under the state seasons, I had still always preferred the later season. There are just a lot more elk on the ranch in November than there are in October.

The statewide seasons I referred to is Colorado's way of spreading out elk rifle season pressure over four time frames. Your license is good only during those time periods. The first season is only five days long and that season is in high demand in mid-October. That first season is a lottery drawing and the odds are better than even that you will draw a license.

The second and third rifle seasons happen in late October and early November. They are both nine-day seasons and bull licenses can be bought right across the counter. In some cases there are cow tags available but usually you have to go through the lottery system to get a cow tag. There are also some bonus cow tags that allow you to take a bull on your main license and a cow on a special license so you could take two elk if the stars lined up appropriately. That two elk limit is a real long shot as it's usually difficult enough to take one elk, let alone two.

The fourth rifle season is again on a lottery basis and runs for five days. That season is held in the latter part of November. When the ranch operated under state seasons that is the one I always applied for and was usually successful. There are some good bulls taken with a lot of elk on the ranch.

I no longer hunt any of Colorado's regular seasons. Instead, after being out of the program for a few years, the Elk Springs Ranch is again enrolled in Colorado's Ranching For Wildlife Program. This is a system whereby the land owner agrees to let the general public in to hunt the land for a specified period of time. You have to apply for a lot of years before you finally get enough preference points to draw a license and hunt the land. If you are a non-resident, you can forget it. The public hunt is limited to residents only.

In exchange for letting the public land hunters on the property for a specified time, the State of Colorado Wildlife Department issues a specified number of either sex elk tags to the property owner. Those elk "tags" come in the form of a voucher that allows you to buy an across the counter elk license. That license is good only on the one ranch that is specified. In the case of the Elk Springs Ranch, the property owner receives anywhere from 50 to 100 elk tags each year. About 75 tags a year for the ranch is about right in most years. Elk Springs is a "destination ranch" that elk have been migrating to for decades. They are used to calling this their winter home once the deep snow and cold weather push the elk out of the high country.

Those licenses that are issued to the rancher to let public land hunters on the ground can be used any way the rancher wishes. If he was inclined to do so, the ranch owner could go out and shoot all 75 of the elk himself or have a big family party and all of the relatives could come and shoot elk.

That's what could be done but is seldom the case. Instead the rancher leases his ground and sells the vouchers to an outfitter. That is the case with Outfitter Russ Behrman that I hunt with. He leases the vouchers and property from the land owner. The license you receive when you turn in the voucher is good on the one ranch only but there is a huge time frame where the license can be used.

In big, broad general terms, and in theory, you could hunt the ranch from August through January and be legal whether there is a state season open or not. That is what the law allows but it is never what the outfitter allows. Hunts are usually five to seven days in duration when going through an outfitter. That is generally more than enough time.

As I indicated, I prefer the later season. Even when the ranch was not involved in the voucher program I always applied for the late season. I didn't want the early season and if I missed on the draw, we would go out for the third rifle season in late October. So I had not hunted the ranch in October for a number of years, always going late instead.

But scheduling conflicts forced a change in plans for the 2017 season. Things had been scheduled that were beyond my control. Outfitter Russ Behrman had agreed to move my hunt from Thanksgiving week to a five-day, more or less, hunt that started on Saturday, October 21.

He had also told me what I already knew. There would not be an overabundance of elk on the ranch that early in the season. Typically he does not even start to hunt the ranch until well into October. There are no elk there to speak of. There are a few head, maybe 50 or less, that never leave the place. They are the exception. There are also those that come and go from other ranches throughout the summer. Early in the season Behrman hunts elsewhere, near irrigated alfalfa fields that he has leased near the Yampa or Little Snake Rivers.

Generally there are no bulls around in the summer and the cows and calves that stay low wander freely from ranch to ranch enjoying an abundance of grass and water. The vast majority of the elk, however, are in the high country 50 to 100 miles away. When the weather begins to change in the high country the cows and calves start to come down and head for the ranch. That's where their mommas took them when they were calves and that's where they head for now.

The cows seem to come down on a fixed timetable. Their migration begins more by the calendar than by the weather. By early October there are migrating elk on the ranch. Those numbers will pick up gradually as more and more elk move down to the lower elevations. Moving with the cows and calves will be the spikes and raghorn bulls. They were run off by the breeding bulls six weeks before but now that the rut is over, they have rejoined the herd.



During the Thanksgiving hunt you can expect to see herds of elk such as this moving back into the sanctuary by mid-morning. Even though there are a lot of elk on the ranch late, the big bulls are usually scarce. There are no decent bulls in this bunch.