

City Of Rothsay Council Minutes...

119 2nd ST SW, ROTHSAY, MN
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
March 4, 2019 @7:00 pm

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 and Darrell Tollefson. Council absent: Tulsa-Leigh Kugler. Others present: Matt Balken, Chad Curtis, Eric Larson and Lisa Zimmerman.

2.0 Public Forum: No Public Forum.

3.0 Approval of Agenda: A MOTION was made by Nelson, seconded by Tollefson to approve the agenda. Carried.

4.0 ROTHSAY FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Eric Larson reported one application was received to join the Fire Department. MOTION by Schleeter, seconded by Tollefson to approve Nick Curtis as a new firefighter. Carried.

A request to install an antenna for internet services on the fire hall was denied.

4.1 FIRE REPORT: Larson reported there were a total of fourteen calls in the month of February; three medical, six rescues, two structure fires and three false alarms.

5.0 EMPLOYEE REPORTS:

5.1 JORDAN BARRY: No report.

5.2 ERIC LARSON:

Larson reported he spoke with the family of Heidi Hauger on behalf of a memorial located at the Rothsay Event Center. The memorial will be moved to the new school location.

With the amounts of snow removal that has had to take place this year, a number of mailboxes have been damaged. While the city is not responsible for the replacement of damaged mailboxes, Larson is researching the cost of installing mailboxes that meet postal specification.

A request was made to lock up the old school from Friday March 8th until Saturday, March 9th for set up of the Winter Mixer and Benefit being held there. Council granted.

Larson will be gone the afternoons of March 12th and 21st for appointments.

5.3 LISA ZIMMERMAN:

Zimmerman reported the city's annual audit took place February 25th-27th.

Zimmerman received an inquiry about the installation of a commercial outdoor wood burner. Council would like clarifications on what is being requested as burning sources as well as the smoke stack height.

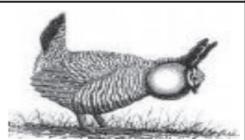
REGIONAL REPORT

Rothsay, Minn.

March 2019

Edition

PAGE 5



grower for craft beer who is looking for 10 acres to start a location that could bring 7 to 14 jobs into the Rothsay Community. Meetings will continue with interested individuals.

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

Respectfully Submitted by,
Lisa Zimmerman,
City Clerk/Treasurer
March 11, 2019

Been There!...
...Done That!
Now I'm
Looking Back...

Hunting Colorado

By: Gene Prim

We're On The Road Again...

My 2017 Colorado elk hunt had turned into a royal mess. I had been having trouble filling my four slots anyway but did have three of the four filled with Larry and Jonathon Wolf from Wisconsin and myself. I had been attempting to get a fourth nailed down for the Thanksgiving hunt when I found out that I wasn't going on it.

Life had taken one of those cruel turns and set up a series of events for me that I could not get out of. There was no way around it, the November dates simply would not work. I did manage to change a few dates around in September or the entire season would have been lost. Larry and Jonathon were still going at Thanksgiving time.

Outfitter Russ Behrman had managed to shuffle some things around and had made an opening for me to come out to hunt beginning Saturday, October 21. He could take either one or two hunters but I had no luck trying to fill that last spot on such short notice.

"You know there usually aren't many elk on the ranch at that time of the year," Behrman warned. "They haven't come out of the high country yet and those that are here will be wilder than hell after they get driven off the public ground and over to the ranch. "The Sanctuary" will be full of good grass yet and they won't feed out very far if they come out at all."

I knew all of that but there were just no other dates available. I looked at going in December but that would be after the public hunters had stirred up everything and there was likely as not few if any elk left on the ranch and wouldn't be until a few late season cow hunts on public land chased them back to the ranch.

The October date was the best I could do and I took it. In reality, October is not all that bad on the ranch if they get some cold weather and some snow out there early. In fact, some of my best elk have come in October in the years when the ranch was not in the Ranching for Wildlife Program.

My best bull to date was taken in October. That is a 6x7 bull taken in 2007. That bull is massive with huge main beams that you can't get your fingers around from the brow lines almost to the end of the long beams. The spread is great. There is some webbing up near the top of the right antler that has a seventh point sticking out from it. What's lacking are long tines. The tines are relatively short. It's a beautiful rack that should have probably scored in the 360s but is at least 30 inches less than that because of the shorter tines. That bull had come out of the high country and had antlers stained black by honing them on pine and cedar up high. The bulls from the lower elevations have blond or light tan horns.

I took a standard 6x6 the year after that in a bitterly cold wind. I had shot another 6x6 in 2006 after what I considered a pretty good stalk. So I had taken big bulls three years running, 2006, 2007, and 2008, all in October.

But I had taken some nice bulls in November as well. My very first Colorado bull was in 2001 and was "only" a 5x5. But it was my first branch antlered bull and quite frankly, that 5x5 is a better looking elk than some of the 6x6s I have taken. It has long tines, good mainframe and good length and width. What it lacked was one more point on each side. But it is one of the prettiest bulls I have ever shot, perfectly symmetrical from one side to the other even though it probably won't score better than 270 or so.

Another late season bull came my third season in Colorado when on a scouting trip the night before I was to start hunting I spotted a bull with an odd "sticker" tine near the long dagger point. It was an unusual elk and I was by myself before I had any experience judging elk antlers. I let the bull feed in good rifle range for a good half hour as I watched him. George returned to the truck right at dark and we got ready to leave.

I had him take a look. "You should have shot him. You're not going to do any better than him. He was right. George, Russ and I spent a couple of days sorting through elk and finally found our original bull near the top of Wapiti. We worked our way to the top through deep snow and I took the bull in a hurricane force wind and Arctic cold. It was a very nice bull but he cheated us. He lacked the traditional double brow tines and sported singles. That bull scored just over 300 points but should have been in the 330s.

There is really no rhyme nor reason to any of that. From past results it would appear that the October season is the best because I have taken more big bulls at that time rather than late. But that is a little deceiving. There are a lot of big bulls that come through all during the season. They just don't hang around the noisy women and kids for very long. They soon bail out for the trophy zones to the west where they will settle in with a herd of bulls to spend the winter bragging about the rut as they try to put on enough weight to survive the winter.

Even if October is not the best time of the year to hunt out there, it is better than not hunting out there at all. That was the only other choice. And that is no choice at all.

The way the cards got dealt I would be making the trip alone. I loaded up the truck after work on Wednesday, October 18. It was my intent to leave about midnight and pull an all-nighter. That would put me into Craig, Colorado late in the day on Thursday, October 19. Get a good meal and motel it, sleep late in the morning and then head to Maybell to pick up my license and relax the rest of Friday.

As I continued to load the truck Karen started with her muttering again. I thought she was saying something about "damned old fool" but she doesn't know any of the people out there well enough to make such a determination. I must have misunderstood.

The trip out was uneventful. I must not be as tough as I once was as I was getting really tired and sleepy just this side of Bismarck. I pulled into a rest stop and took an hour-long power nap. That kind of perked me up. Then it was on to Belfield to gas up. Highway 85 south to Belle Fourche, dodging deer and antelope as the sun came up. On to Gillette and then my usual get lost in Casper tour of the city. From there down and through Muddy Gap, Rawlins and down into Colorado. The sun was still up when I put the truck into Craig and called it a night.



This is the bull pen where hunts are relived and plans made for the next day. In the 17 seasons I have spent hunting Colorado elk, the size of the TV screen has changed at the lodge and very little else.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Wilkin County Sheriff's Department 2019 Contract: Tabled until the April meeting.

6.2 Rothsay City Logo: Results of the online poll were Option 1 (black and white)-141 votes and Option 2 (color)-147 votes. Council discussed option 2 for the official city logo with taking out the color if needed on certain layouts. MOTION by Tollefson, seconded by Nelson to make option 2 the official city logo. Carried.

6.3 Lakes Country Service Cooperative Membership: MOTION made by Schleeter, seconded by Tollefson to approve the membership. Carried.

6.4 Internet Service Provider Request: An open house will be held on April 1st from 3pm-6pm at City Hall to give information on services provided.

6.5 Proclamation No. 2019-1 A MOTION was made by Schleeter, seconded by Tollefson to approve the proclamation as presented. Carried. Proclamation No. 2019-1 states, in part, "the citizens of Rothsay, the Rothsay Roads & Streets Department, the Rothsay Public School District, and just about every single person in the Rothsay community have joined in urging all winter related weather events to END so Rothsay citizens can begin to prepare for SPRING weather we very much deserve!" March 4-10, 2019 is hereby officially recognized as Bring on the Spring-2019 Week.

7.0 OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 Rothsay Event Center: Two options were presented for financing the project. Option 1 is to bond the entire project, while option 2 utilized a Rebate and Loan program from Otter Tail Power Company. A Roll Call Vote was taken with a unanimous favor for option 2. Carried.

7.2 The Prairie Addition: A MOTION was made by Tollefson, seconded by Nelson to appoint Kugler and Schleeter to be the new Prairie Addition Committee. Carried.

7.2.1 Covenant review and approval: MOTION made by Tollefson, seconded by Nelson to approve the revised covenants placed on the Prairie Addition. Carried.

7.3 City Hall Renovation: Matt Balken presented a new design for the council table in the same amount of \$2,000.00. MOTION by Tillman, seconded by Tollefson to move forward with Balken building the table not to exceed \$2,500. Carried.

An open house will be held on April 1st from 1:00pm-6:00pm at City Hall.

8.0 Approval of February 19, 2019 Council Minutes: A MOTION was made by Tollefson, seconded by Nelson to approve. Carried.

Samuelson Sez



Orion Samuelson

Orion Samuelson

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE YOUR OPINION

For all of you who have really wanted to write an agricultural newspaper column, here's your chance. This week I don't really have anyone I want to praise or criticize; I don't have one issue that is towering above other issues, so I am looking to you to share some of your thoughts (or frustrations), then I can include them on an upcoming Samuelson Sez.

First of all, let me give you the e-mail address where you can send your thoughts to me so I'll be sure to get them: orion@agbizweek.com.

There is one restriction. There are two topics I will not discuss on any Samuelson Sez, because years ago I learned from my Dad there are two subjects you do not discuss with family or friends, religion and politics. So, I will not share religious thoughts or political thoughts from you but everything else is wide open. Oh, and watch your language, no cussing, please.

What are you concerned about, the income situation for farmers and ranchers? The weather for Spring planting season? Trade issues that never seem to end with our trading partners around the world? Climate change and its impact on food production?

Interestingly enough, I did receive half a dozen e-mails this winter from different parts of the country dealing with one subject. That subject is the future of County Fairs and what can we do to ensure that County Fairs will stay alive in our country. That is an example of the topics I am looking for, but you have your own concerns.

I certainly don't want to limit you to a particular topic, so please share whatever is on your mind. Once again, my e-mail is: orion@agbizweek.com.

I will look forward to sharing some of your thoughts and concerns with my readers on Samuelson Sez.



News and Notes from

Buffalo - Red River Watershed District

"BRRWD Reviews Diversion Permit Application"

The Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), held their regular meeting on February 11, 2019, in their Barnesville office. Eric Dodds, Advanced Engineer and Environmental Services, Fargo-Moorhead Diversion Authority (FM DA) Program Management Consultant, gave a presentation about DA's Property Rights Acquisition and Mitigation Plan in association with BRRWD Permit Application No. 19-003. The Board also considered a request to appoint a Manager to participate on the DA's Minnesota land acquisition oversight committee and to consider participating in the Moorhead-Clay County Joint Powers Agreement (MCCJA). After discussion, the Board approved a motion to appoint BRRWD President Jay A. Leitch to the Land Acquisition Committee as a voting member only, and to decline a full membership in the MCCJA.

Other business included:

Reviewed the BRRWD's monthly financial statements, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, summary of income, and the accounts receivable report. Cash on hand is \$3,419,477.32. Total 2019 administrative disbursements to date are \$41,107.13. Current 2019 accounts receivable are \$6,176,574. Total income this year is \$1,040,768.90. Income received since the 1/14/19 meeting totaled \$1,040,543.90 for 2018 2nd half tax settlements from Otter Tail County (\$1,769.80), Wilkin County (\$12,547.79), Becker County (\$5,872.71), and Clay County (\$238,621.24). We also received Buffer Initiative Contribution payments from Clay County (\$65,864) and Wilkin County (\$41,603.50). The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) forwarded the final reimbursement for Project No. 49, Oakport Township Flood Mitigation (\$131,770.86) and the first reimbursement from the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration



(\$538,795.14). The balance of income came from Midwest Bank account interest (\$3,473.86) and Houston Engineering, Inc. office rental (\$225). The Board also approved the payment of bills, totaling \$106,954.64.

The Board authorized the staff to work with Midwest Bank to acquire two credit cards to be used for routine expenses such as booking Manager conference reservations/registrations and purchasing online office supplies.

Approved permits to Pheasants Forever (PF) for two wetland restoration projects. The first was in Section 29, Cromwell Township, Clay County, in association with the DNR, and the second was in Section 28, Orwell Township, Otter Tail County, in association with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Board postponed action on a third PF/USFWS wetland restoration application in Section 7, Parke Township, Clay County, which was started last fall without a BRRWD permit, pending a field review when weather conditions permit this spring regarding potential impacts to neighboring lands.

Received an update on Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Restoration. Phase 2 easements have been forwarded to the landowners. Staff plans to contact landowners who didn't respond after the first mailing to encourage them to complete the temporary easement acquisition

process. The Board would like to advertise for Phase 2 bids in March/April 2019. Staff is also working on the Phase 3 easement options in Clay County, so that the Clay Soil and Water Conservation District can start the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program process with the landowners. The BRRWD's overall goal is to complete the entire project in 2019.

Approved a motion to submit a DNR Stream Restoration Priority List application for the Whiskey Creek Restoration project near Kent, MN.

Noted that a construction bid opening has been scheduled for Project No. 78, Clay/Wilkin Judicial Ditch No. 1-Improvement, on 3/8/19. The Board expects to review the Engineer's recommendations and award the contract at their 3/11/19 meeting. The Clay County Commissioners will consider a bond sale resolution for the project at their 3/19/19 meeting.

Agreed to reschedule the Preliminary Resolution Hearings for the Stony Creek and Whiskey Creek Restoration projects for later this spring due to hearing notice requirements and staff work load issues.

Noted that BRRWD Vice President Peter V. Fjestad, BRRWD Administrator Bruce E. Albright, and Assistant Administrator Kathleen K. Fenger plan to attend the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Legislative Reception and

Day at the Capitol on February 20-21, 2019, in St. Paul. On 2/20/19, Albright and Fenger will attend a Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators meeting, and Vice President Fjestad will attend a MAWD Board of Directors meeting. They have appointments scheduled on 2/21/19 to meet with our local legislators to discuss BRRWD project funding and MAWD legislative issues.

The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 11, 2019, at 7:00 PM in the BRRWD office, located at 1303 4th AVE NE, Barnesville, MN. The second February meeting (February 25) was not held because several Managers were absent.

All meetings are open to the public. For more information about the BRRWD, please visit our website at www.brrwd.org.

ROTHSAY REGIONAL REPORT



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To order a subscription or if you have any questions about advertising rates, please contact us at PO Box 203, Rothsay, MN or you may call us at our office in Barnesville at 218 354-2606.

Rothsay Regional Report

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