

Town of Bethlehem
Council meeting
Oct. 3, 2022 @ 7 p.m.

Present: Mayor Sandy McNab; Councilmen, Tommy Buchanan, Doug Koestel, and Scott Morgan; Clerk, Kathy Bridges; Attorney Ron Bennett

Visitors: Mai Yang and her husband, Jerry and Sharon Johnson, Beth Buchanan, Dan Wages, Michelle Sims, Morgan Ervin with the Barrow Journal newspaper

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Sandy McNab.

First on the agenda was the application for a business license by Mai Yang who wants to open Lasting Brow Bar, a cosmetic eyebrow tattooing business at 753 Christmas Ave. Scott Morgan made the motion to issue the license when she has received her permit from the Barrow County environmental health department. Doug Koestel seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Next the business license application of James Williamson who planned to open B&C Landscaping from his residence at 137 Manning Gin Rd. Scott Morgan made the motion to approve the license, Doug Koestel seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Updating the office computer was next on the agenda. The clerk explained the office computer was 14 years old and Eric Dailey of Home Computers would update it to a quad 4 processor and add a solid-state drive for \$650. Doug Koestel made the motion to accept the bid and Scott Morgan seconded the motion. Tommy Buchanan voted yes making the vote unanimous.

The code issues at 151 Star Street were discussed and were to be brought up again at the next meeting.

The Bethlehem First United Methodist Church had requested the town pay for rebuilding the nativity shelter which was damaged beyond repair last year. The cost was \$3,500 by John Whittington Enterprises, LLC. Doug Koestel asked if the church would still be sponsoring the event and the Mayor said he would contact the preacher. Action was postponed.

The new Christmas decorations item was postponed since Doug Koestel said his contact had not responded with a quote. He explained the company put up Auburn's decorations and everything (the décor) was leased.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the August minutes. Doug Koestel made the motion to approve the Aug. 1 meeting minutes, Tommy Buchanan seconded and the vote was unanimous. Scott Morgan made the motion to approve the Aug. 10 meeting minutes with a

correction, Doug Koestel seconded and the vote was unanimous. The council had questions about the Aug. 1 execution session minutes and agreed to discuss it during an executive session in November.

The council discussed the 2023 budget and decided to adjust the tree maintenance category, the utilities category, and the garbage (Allied Waste) category. All three would be increased. The budget will be advertised this month according to attorney Ron Bennett, a budget hearing will be held Nov. 7 and a vote on the budget will occur at the Dec 5 meeting.

Lastly Sharon Johnson spoke to the council.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 with a motion by Tommy Buchanan.