

*Town of Bethlehem*  
*Council meeting*  
*June 5, 2023*

Present: Mayor Sandy McNab; Councilmen, Ashlie Franklin, Eric Dailey, Doug Koestel and by phone, Scott Morgan; Clerk, Kathy Bridges; Attorney Brian Dempsey

Visitors: Tyler Lasser with Alliance Engineering; Alex Ward, District 4 Barrow County Commissioner; Morgan Ervin, Barrow Journal; and citizens, Dianne Dohm, Jason Walters, Mike McKinney, Tim and Lisa Hill, Chris Lelle, Jerry Johnson and Rebecca Gresham

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. with the public hearing on the rezone of BE02, 034A and BE 02 037, 951 Monroe Hwy. from AG to C-2 for a commercial retail center on proposed FLUM from rural neighborhood to community crossroads, 14.71 acres total.

Tyler Lasser of Alliance Engineering spoke first about the project, then the council heard from several members of the community voicing opposition.

At 7:40 the regular meeting opened, and Doug Koestel made the motion to postpone the vote on the rezone until after the results of the traffic study were done. Eric Dailey seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous-Ashlie Franklin and Scott Morgan for.

The council discussed spending money on new Christmas decorations using the rescue funds. Doug Koestel asked the council to approve spending \$50,000. Ashlie Franklin made the motion to approve the funds, Eric Dailey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with Doug Koestel and Scott Morgan voting yes. Koestel made a motion to buy 22 pole lights for \$11,187; 4-16' Christmas trees for \$2200 each (\$8800 total) and miscellaneous lights and plugs for an additional \$3000. Ashlie Franklin seconded, and the vote was unanimous with Eric Dailey and Scott Morgan voting yes. Koestel was to place the order with Creative Displays.

The May minutes were approved with a motion by Ashlie Franklin, a second by Eric Dailey and a unanimous vote.

The business license for Copan LLC was approved with a motion Ashlie Franklin, a second by Eric Dailey and a unanimous vote. The business was to be an office inside of Latin American Auto Salvage.

The council discussed the Intergovernmental agreement giving Barrow County the authority to sell water in Bethlehem city limits. Doug Koestel made the motion to approve, Scott Morgan seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The zoning moratorium was discussed next. Attorney Brian Dempsey advised that the development codes needed to be up to date with the current state law and the current code had not been reviewed since 2008. The 150-day moratorium would not affect current applications.

Doug Koestel made the motion to approve reviewing the Unified Development Codes, Scott Morgan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Koestel made the motion to approve the moratorium resolution and with a second by Scott Morgan the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.