

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 8, 2020

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting was duly held at City Hall at 7:00 PM on the 8th day of September, 2020.

Council present: Paul Kirtz, Michael Cherney, Ella Noterman, and Karen Ruechel.

Council absent: Brian Anderson.

Assistant Mayor Paul Kirtz presided over the meeting.

Agenda:

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Mike Cherney, to approve the City Council meeting agenda. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve the August 25th, 2020 minutes as recorded. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:

Still trying to make a connection with Scott Osmundson about accepting the City's offer to purchase the two parcels of land East of the city hall building.

Police Report:

The Mower County Sheriff's Department reported two incidents for the month of August. The first incident occurred at the apartment complex East of town when a resident at the complex assaulted a deputy. The second incident occurred in the Adams area where two deputies came into contact with an individual who was infected with the Covid-19, while responding to a medical emergency call. Both deputies are now in quarantine.

Fire Department Report:

Dillon Heimer, the Fire Chief, informed the council that the new pump for the fire truck will be installed by the end of the week.

Maintenance Department Report:

Craig Hegge reported with the progress on the road construction project. He said that the crew was done installing services on 5th St. He did report some problems that occurred when the crew was lining the sewer lines concerning residents smelling gas. Craig talked about updating electrical services in the park to prevent problems that have been occurring.

Lastly Craig brought to the council's attention the need to update the water tower control gauges and warning system. The city has received a quote from S&M Controls for \$11,557.00 to update the water tower. Motion made Mike Cherney, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve the quote of \$11,557.00 to update the water tower. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Bills:

The bills payable for August were reviewed by the City Council.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve payment of the bills as presented. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Financial Report:

The city clerk presented the July 31st, 2020 financial statements.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve the financial statement as presented. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Prairie Visions Report:

No new business to report.

Proposed 2021 Budget:

Discussion was held on the proposed 2021 budget and proposed tax levy. The city clerk presented the proposed 2021 General Fund and Debt Service Fund budget totaling \$819,202.00, and a proposed tax levy of \$419,600.00. Capital outlay items include a water tower repairs (\$12,000.00), sewer camera (\$10,000.00), a new roof for 322 Building (\$30,000.00) and replacing pipes at sewer plant (\$10,000.00). A total of \$60,375.00 was proposed for General Fund transfers. Proposed transfers from the General Fund include \$24,375.00 to the Fire Department Fund, \$10,000.00 to the 322 Building Fund, \$6000.00 to the Contingency Fund and \$20,000.00 to the Street Maintenance Fund (designate \$10,000.00 for seal coating, \$10,000.00 for a new City pickup). Other transfers include \$30,000.00 from the Water Fund to Sewer Fund, \$3,200.00 from the Sewer Fund to Sewer Replacement Fund. The 2020 budget would decrease 2.85%, and the tax levy would remain the same as 2020.

Motion made by Mike Cherney, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve Resolution #21-2020, a resolution adopting the proposed 2021 budget of \$819,202.00, a 2.85% decrease from 2020, as presented. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve Resolution #22-2020 to adopt the proposed tax levy of \$419,600.00, remaining the same as 2020, as presented. Votes in favor: Ella Noterman, Karen Ruechel and Mike Cherney

North Park Addition Updates:

Mike Zillgitt, the engineer for the North Park Addition, attended the meeting and discussed some proposed layouts and estimates for the first phase of the North Park Addition. Also discussed was the availability of any lots for immediate construction.

Covid-19 Relief Money Update:

There was discussion of how the city plans to spend the \$60,000.00 in Covid relief funds granted to the city by the state and made available by the federal CARES Act. There was talk about using the money to pay off some unemployment expenses incurred, helping out the fire department by purchasing radios and turnout gear, using the money for updating the water tower controls and getting some new hardware and software for the city. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Building Permits:

The city council discussed the approval and issuance of a new building permit. Michael Kintop located at 102 4th St. NW has installed an L-shaped privacy fence around his garden in his back yard. It was brought to attention of the city that it was installed without a permit and that the fence did not adhere to the city's 6 foot high height restriction. After contacting Mr. Kintop he was willing to lower the height of his fence and apply and pay for a building permit.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve the issuance of the building permit. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman, and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of BCM Application for Payment:

BCM Construction Inc. has sent their second Application for Payment for the 2020 Utility and Street Improvements project amounting to \$641,884.60.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Mike Cherney, to approve the Application for Payment of \$641,884.60 to BCM Construction Inc. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Ella Noterman, to adjourn at 8:45 PM. Votes in favor: Mike Cherney, Ella Noterman, and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer