

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 11th, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting was duly held at City Hall at 7:00 PM on the 11th day of September, 2018.

Council present: Nancy Thalberg, Gail Anderson, and Peter Schmitz.

Council absent: Paul Kirtz, Karen Ruechel.

Mayor Nancy Thalberg presided at the meeting.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the City Council meeting agenda. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the August 16th, and August 28th, 2018 minutes as recorded. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Southland School Board member Dana Sorenson addressed the City Council with an update of the school bond referendum that will be voted on in the November election. Dana distributed brochures that describe the renovation costs and the effects on property taxes. The bond referendum consists of two questions, one for renovations at \$15.8 million, and another for a new gym at \$2.4 million. The gym question is dependent on the renovation question, it cannot pass if the renovation question doesn't pass.

Michael Gehrke presented the August police report. The report lists 6 warning tickets, 2 fire/ambulance assists, 4 law enforcement assists, 1 traffic accident, and 1 felony domestic assault arrest. Mike reported that he attended a mutual aid meeting in Dexter. An active shooter training will be held in September at the Southland Public School. Mike reported that he and his part time officers have signed up for EVOG training (Emergency Vehicle Operation Course) in Rochester. Police Officers Standards and Training auditor performed a compliance check on the department's personnel files and training files. All of Mike's records were 100% complete. The department passed the compliance check.

Curt Sheely presented the Fire Department report for August. The department responded to four calls during the month. There was one structure fire, one vehicle accident, one Mayo One landing assist, one carbon monoxide incident. Curt reported that the department received a matching grant of \$2500.00 from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. A donation will cover the matching portion of the grant. The grant will be used to purchase (2) 800 MHz radios.

Al Sorenson presented the maintenance report for the past month. Al reported that Rural Water Association will be smoke testing approximately 30 city blocks of sanitary sewer in September. The smoke testing will reveal illegal hookups to the sanitary sewer system. The department is repairing manholes all around the City to stop infiltration to the sanitary sewer.

The bills payable were reviewed.

Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to approve payment of bills as submitted. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

The city clerk presented the July 31st, 2018 financial statements. Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve the financial statement as presented. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to approve a building permit to Crystal Gray (406 Lewison St NW) for a house addition. The permit grants a 2 foot variance to the front yard setback requirement. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve a building permit to Al Sorenson (208 2nd St NW) to relocate a garage. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the proposed 2019 budget and proposed tax levy. The city clerk presented the proposed 2019 General Fund and Debt Service Fund budget totaling \$868,400.00, and a proposed tax levy of \$407,400.00. Capital outlay items include a skid loader upgrade (\$4500.00), fire hydrants

(\$6500.00), and jetter truck tanks (\$5000.00). A total of \$70,000.00 was proposed for Fund transfers. Proposed transfers from the General Fund include \$34,000.00 to the Sewer 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 \$5000.00 from the Water Fund to Sewer Fund, \$2300.00 from the Sewer Fund to Sewer Replacement Fund. The 2019 budget would decrease 3.25%, and the tax levy would increase 3.1%. Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to approve Resolution #09-2018, a resolution adopting the proposed 2019 budget as presented. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve Resolution #10-2018, a resolution adopting the proposed 2019 tax levy as presented. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

City Clerk Jim Kiefer suggested the City Council lower the cash in lieu of taxes charged to the Health Care Center back to the amount charged last year. The Health Care Center has not made their monthly bond installment since March. The extra funds received for cash in lieu of taxes would be transferred from the General Fund to the Medical Facilities Debt Service Fund. Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to approve a transfer \$21,600.00 from the General Fund to the Medical Facilities Debt Service Fund. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Schmitz, to not renew the Equitable Cost-sharing for Publicly-owned Nursing facilities (ECPN) for 2019. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn. Votes in favor: Anderson, Schmitz, and Thalberg. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jim Kiefer

Clerk/ Treasurer