

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 8th, 2020

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting was duly held at City Hall at 7:00 PM on the 12th day of December 2020.

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

Council absent: None.

Mayor Brian Anderson presided over the meeting.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING:

Mayor Anderson and the City Council reviewed the budget for 2019, as presented by the City Clerk. The budget shows a \$2,332.00 (.285%) decrease in expenses, and no (0%) increase in property taxes. There was 1 citizen present for the hearing. The resident had concerns about the valuation of his property and how that affects his taxes. The council informed the citizen that the county assessor was the person to speak to about their issue. Upon no other concerns a motion was made by Paul Kirtz, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve the 2021 budget and the 2020 year end transfers as presented. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Karen Ruechel, Ella Noterman and Michael Cherney. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Another motion was made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve resolution #29-2020, a resolution setting the 2021 tax levy at \$419,600.00. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Karen Ruechel, Ella Noterman and Michael Cherney. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Mike Zillgitt / North Park Addition / Boe Subdivision:

Mike Zillgitt, the engineer who has been helping the city with the North Park Addition, attended the meeting via zoom. He provided the council with a project schedule, which laid out a chronological timeline of events that would be occurring in the coming months to complete the North Park Addition project. Mike discussed that the surveying has concluded, and he is now in the process of creating a preliminary plat which should be ready for review and approval by January 12th, 2021.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve the November 24th, 2020 as presented. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of November Timecards:

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve the November timecards. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:

The council discussed the idea of hiring supplemental help for the winter months to help the maintenance crew on an as need basis. Per the maintenance crew's suggestion, the council decided to continue using the same employee that was used during the Summer months as the supplemental employee.

The council also discussed the need to contact Scott Osmundson so the city could finish the acquisition of the property just East of City Hall.

Police Report:

There was discussion of an attempted break-in at a residence here in town. Also a few driving violations.

A motion was made by Paul Kirtz, seconded by Ella Noterman to approve the contractual payment of \$77,909.00 to the Mower County Sheriff's Department for their services for the year of 2020. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Fire Department Report:

No news to report.

Maintenance Department Report:

The maintenance department has been working on the flume project at the treatment plant, they have also been doing some painting at the plant, and they hauled out sludge from the treatment plant to the landfill. BCM Construction was in town working on getting the punch list items completed. They did not finish but they will be back in the Spring to complete the job. Maintenance has also been working on updating the manhole inventory in the city. They ran the idea of getting some prices for overhead fans for the firehall to circulate the heat and air throughout the building better. Lastly, they talked about the arrival of the new skid steer.

A motion was made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Paul Kirtz to approve the payment of \$7,000.00 to the Minnesota Ag Group for the new Case skid steer. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Bills:

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

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

Financial Report:

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

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

Prairie Visions Report:

No new business to report.

Resolution #28-2020:

A resolution to collect delinquent water, sewer and garbage charges which are to be levied against the delinquent property owners 2021 taxes.

Motion made by Ella Noterman, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve Resolution #28-2020, a resolution to collect delinquent water, sewer and garbage charges. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Building Permits:

Courtney Houck is applying for a building permit at 302 6th St. NW to build a fence on the South side of her property.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Ella Noterman, to approve Courtney Houck's building permit to construct a fence at 302 6th St. NW. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

No further business.

Motion made by Paul Kirtz, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Mayor Brian Anderson reopened the meeting for Jim Kiefer, who was attending the meeting via zoom. Jim, who has been working on finalizing the sale of the AHCC during his phased retirement, discussed that approximately \$240,000.00 is left in the AHCC account which should, at some point, be transferred the city's general fund. He also discussed that there are still outstanding checks from that account that have not been cashed. It was decided that a cancel payment would be put on those checks. Jim then let the council know that he is nearly half done with downloading the patient records from the AHCC for the past 7 years.

No further business.

Motion made by Paul Kirtz, seconded by Michael Cherney, to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Votes in favor: Paul Kirtz, Ella Noterman, Michael Cherney and Karen Ruechel. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer