

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 12th, 2017

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting was duly held at the Adams Emergency Services Building at 6:00 PM on the 12th day of December, 2017.

Council present: Nancy Thalberg, Gail Anderson, Paul Kirtz, Karen Ruechel, and Peter Schmitz.

Council absent: None.

Mayor Nancy Thalberg presided at the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO ORDER:

Purpose of the hearing was to review the proposed assessments of the 2017 Schmitz Street project for property owners between the north line of Main Street, and north line of Bergen Street continuing west on Bergen Street approximately 70 feet. The assessment to residents with abutting property was set at 30% of the cost of the project. Twelve property owners were present for the hearing. City Engineer Bryan Petzel explained the assessment letters mailed to property owners by the city clerk. The total amount of Schmitz Street assessed was \$56,290.00. A total of \$149,550.00 will be levied to property taxes over the next twelve years. Upon no questions from residents concerning the assessments a motion was made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to approve resolution #19-2017, a resolution adopting the 2017 Schmitz Street project assessments. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried. Motion was made by Schmitz, seconded by Ruechel, to adjourn Schmitz Street project assessment hearing. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Bryan Petzel reviewed the Main Street proposed assessments for property owners between the west line of First Street, and east line of Fifth Street. The assessment to residents with abutting property was set at 30% of the City of Adams cost of the project. The total amount of Main Street assessed was \$261,430.00. A total of \$800,170.00 will be levied to property taxes over the next twelve years. Property owner Jerome Landherr requested his assessment be lowered considering he did not get a water service installed to his property. Bryan explained that he received a 15% discount for living on a corner lot to compensate for not receiving a new water service. Bryan explained that an appeal of the assessment can be filed in district court within 30 days of this hearing. Upon no further questions from property owners a motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Ruechel, to approve resolution #18-2017, a resolution adopting the 2017 Main Street project assessments. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried. Motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Schmitz, to adjourn Main Street project assessment hearing. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Meeting moved to Adams City Hall.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING:

Mayor Thalberg and the City Council reviewed the revised budget for 2018, as presented by City Clerk Jim Kiefer. The revised budget shows a \$117,232.00 (15.02%) increase in expenses, and a \$56,430.00 (16.65%) increase in property taxes. There were approximately 15 citizens present for the hearing. Numerous concerns over the tax increase were submitted by residents. City Engineer Bryan Petzel explained how the tax levy was affected by the 2017 street projects. City Clerk Jim Kiefer stated that the streets projects accounted for the majority of the increase in the levy. 70% of the cost of the projects was levied to the City. The levy will continue for 12 years until the bond is paid. Upon no further resident concerns a motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Anderson, to approve Resolution #20-2017, a resolution setting the 2018 tax levy at \$395,150.00. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Anderson, to adjourn the Truth in Taxation hearing. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Anderson, seconded by Ruechel, to approve the November 14th, and November 28th, 2017 minutes as recorded. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Emily Hovden gave a progress report on the dog park she is working on for her senior project. Emily reported that she is downsizing the park to save on construction costs. She has more fund raisers planned to obtain the funds needed to create the park.

Michael Gehrke presented the November, 2017 police report. The report lists 12 State citations, 6 warning tickets, 2 law enforcement assists, and 5 fire/ambulance assists. Mike reported that he gave a talk on criminal investigations to the HS science class. Mike advised the Council that he is continuing to monitor overtime parking and unlicensed vehicles.

Fire Chief Curt Sheely presented the Fire Department report for November. Curt reported that the Department responded to two calls in the past month. Calls involved one standby for the LEC, and one grain dryer fire. Curt reported that he will be ordering 21 protective fire hoods for the Department at a cost of \$88.00 apiece. Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Anderson, to accept the resignation of Troy McCabe effective November, 2017. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None: Motion carried. Motion made by Kirtz, seconded by Ruechel to install Asa Smith as a fire fighter for the Adams Fire Department. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None: Motion carried.

Craig Hegge presented the maintenance report to the City Council. Craig reported that the handicap signs have been placed on Main Street. Numerous sewer mains were jetted in the past month. New overhead doors are being installed in the back shop of City Hall. Craig reported that the river near the sewer plant will need to be cleaned to prevent possible flooding. Brush surrounding the river will need to be removed to allow access to the river.

The bills payable were reviewed.

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

The city clerk presented the October 30th, 2017 financial statements. Motion made by Schmitz, seconded by Kirtz, to approve the financial statement as presented. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

City Clerk Jim Kiefer requested a motion on financial year end transfers. A motion was made by Kirtz, seconded by Anderson, to transfer \$30,000.00 from the General Fund to the Sewer Fund, \$6,000.00 from the General Fund to the Contingency Fund, \$5,000.00 from the General Fund to the 322 Building Fund, and \$19,340.00 from the General Fund to the Street Maintenance Fund. Votes in favor: Anderson, Kirtz, Ruechel, and Schmitz. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Nancy Thalberg, Karen Ruechel, and Jim Kiefer updated the City Council on a meeting held with the Adams Development Corporation last week. Board members of the Development Corporation are considering making a financial donation to the City of Adams for purchase of real estate for development. Further discussion will be held at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Thalberg reported that a kick off for the City of Adams 150th celebration will be held on January 28th, 2018. Street banners will be ordered this week and will be displayed at the event. Nancy reported that there was a large turnout for the organizational meeting of the Adams Historical Society. Work continues on the 322 Bank Building in preparation for the 150th celebration.

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

Jim Kiefer

Clerk/ Treasurer