

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

Mayor Eder called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Eder, Tootz Tschumperlin, Sue Unterberger, Jason Laumer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marc Wirz

Others present: Duane Peterson, Jody Bauer, Jeff Hilsgen

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

Items on the Consent Agenda were January 10, 2019 regular meeting minutes, January financial report, Resolution #2019-7, Resolution Accepting Donations, Resolution #2019-8, Resolution Approving Payment of Certain Monthly Bills for Ambulance Service, delinquent water bills for shut off.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE AMBULANCE BILLS AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A full vote of the ambulance service was not taken on the pay increase for Teresa Carlson, MN Star reporting clerk, in January so the service acted on it again at its February meeting. The motion passed to increase the wage to \$475 per month vs. \$500.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LAUMER TO RESCIND THE MOTION MADE IN JANUARY TO INCREASE THE PAY TO \$500 PER MONTH, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LAUMER TO INCREASE THE PAY FOR TERESA CARLSON TO \$475 PER MONTH EFFECTIVE MARCH 1ST, 2019, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Duane Peterson requested approval to install an exhaust fan and LED lights in the ambulance squad room and to install 2 lights in the ambulance garage area. Total cost is about \$2,200.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE AMBULANCE EXPENDITURES, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Duane also noted the ambulance would like permission to start looking for a new ambulance. A new one would be about \$175,000. There is currently about \$75,000 in the new ambulance fund.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE TO START LOOKING FOR A NEW AMBULANCE, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

Jeff Hilsgen, Watkins Lions Club, noted the Little Miss Watkins parade float needs to be replaced. He requested approval to charge to the Park and Rec Fund. Cost would be \$2,000.

MOTION BY LAUMER TO APPROVE THE NEW PARADE FLOAT EXPENDITURE, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Planning Commission update – Joe Kuechle and Jay Kuechle attended the meeting to discuss building a storage shed(s) on their property on Third Street North. The commission advised them to get it surveyed and come back with a sketch of their proposal.

Sheriff's Department report – Laumer asked what hours they work. The deputy works 4-10-hour shifts. Council did ask the Sheriff about going back to 8 hour shifts at contract renewal time but hasn't heard if that will change. Laumer noted he has had concerns brought to him from community members regarding coverage and response time. Discussion followed. Duane Peterson noted he sees the deputies around quite often.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ACCEPT THE SHERIFF'S REPORT, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

EDA update – Dennis Loch submitted his resignation from the board.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO ACCEPT LOCH'S RESIGNATION FROM THE EDA BOARD, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

Brenda Carlson would be interested in serving on the board again.

MOTION BY LAUMER TO APPOINT BRENDA CARLSON TO THE EDA BOARD, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Eder noted the lots size of the EDA property in Glenshire Estates was discussed at the planning commission also. Kramer is doing some research on the correct way to prepare these lots for sale and also has contacted Southwest MN Housing Partnership to discuss development of the lots. Discussion followed. Kramer will check with Southwest MN Housing Partnership to see if a representative could attend the March 6th planning commission meeting since two of the EDA board members plan to attend that meeting.

Kramer requested approval to write off water bills from 201 Church Street. These bills are uncollectable. Total amount is \$1,282.96.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO WRITE OFF THE UNCOLLECTABLE WATER BILLS, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

The annual Board of Review and Equalization meeting will be held Wednesday, April 10th at 7 p.m.

Council approved for Forest Prairie Township to hold its annual elections and annual meeting at City Hall on March 12 starting at 5 p.m.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 14th at 7 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY UNTERBERGER, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer
Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder
Mayor