

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2019

Mayor Eder called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Eder, Tootz Tschumperlin, Marc Wirz, Jason Laumer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Unterberger

Others: Public Works Director Steve Geislinger, Kent Louwagie, Jody Bauer, Clerk Deb Kramer

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

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Items on the Consent Agenda were minutes of the December 13th regular meeting, December financial report, Resolution #2019-1, Resolution Accepting Donations, Resolution #2019-2, Resolution Approving Transfer, Resolution #2019-3, Resolution Making Appointments for Authorized Signers, Resolution #2019-4, Resolution Approving Payment of Certain Monthly Bills, and delinquent water bills for shut off.

Public Forum – Jean Matua from Tri-County News requested council to appoint the Tri-County News as the official paper again.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE AMBULANCE 4TH QUARTER REPORTS, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY LAUMER TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE AMBULANCE BILLS AS PRESENTED FOR JANUARY 2019, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Kent Louwagie presented the 2nd and final pay request for the 2018 street project. The final pay request was \$6,332.70. Total project cost was \$120,573.96. This was about \$26,000 less than the estimate. All necessary paperwork has been submitted. The two-year warranty would begin upon approval of the pay request.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE FINAL PAY REQUEST FOR \$6,332.70, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2019-5, RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2019 APPOINTMENTS, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION 2019-5
CITY OF WATKINS**

**MEEKER COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2019 APPOINTMENTS**

BE IT RESOLVED, The City Council of the City of Watkins does hereby approve the attached list as the appointments for 2019.

This foregoing resolution was adopted on a motion by Wirz, seconded by Tschumperlin. Motion Carried.
Adopted this 10th day of January, 2019.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

Frank Eder, Mayor

Debra S. Kramer, Clerk/Treasurer

2019 APPOINTMENTS

Acting Mayor – Kathleen Tschumperlin

Street Commissioner – Kathleen Tschumperlin

Water Commissioner – Jason Laumer

Sewer Commissioner – Marc Wirz

Police Commissioner – Sue Unterberger

Depositing Bank – Farmers State Bank of Watkins
Northland Securities

Animal Control Officer – Meeker County Sheriff's Office

Emergency Management Director – Meeker County Sheriff's Office

Official Newspaper – EV-W Voice

City Attorney – Daniel Zimmermann and Boe Piras– Willenbring Law Office

Prosecuting Attorney – Meeker County Attorney

Election Clerk – Deb Kramer

Weed Inspector – Frank Eder

The appointed Water Commissioner, the City Clerk and the Public Works Director shall also serve on the Eden Valley-Watkins Joint Water Commission Board.

Watkins Board of Adjustments – Jim Fuchs: 1-1-2019 to 1-1-2022

Watkins Planning Commission – Frank Eder: 1-1-2019 to 1-1-2021

Watkins Economic Development Authority –

Kathleen Tschumperlin: 1-1-2019 - 1-1-2023

Sue Unterberger: 1-1-2019 – 1-1-2021

Alex Neisen: 1-1-2019 – 1-1-2026

**MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2019-6, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE STAMPS OR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES FOR MAYOR AND ACTING MAYOR, SECONDED BY LAUMER.
MOTION CARRIED.**

Council advised Kramer to contact Clear Lake Subordinate Service District to set up a date to meet to discuss renewal of the sewage treatment capacity agreement coming due in 2020.

Council reviewed information from Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) regarding community foundation funds. A community foundation fund would allow individuals, businesses and other entities to make gifts to the community and receive the highest possible charitable tax deduction without any separate filings or legal designations from the IRS or Attorney General. Affiliates build a permanent endowment fund to help address the community's changing needs and capitalize on its future opportunities. SWIF would execute a legal agreement that would extend its 501(c)(3) public charity status to the community. The community would develop an advisory board to oversee and implement fundraising activities, recruit and train a volunteer board, conduct marketing activities and coordinate a community grantmaking process. SWIF would administer and manage investments for a fee. Council

advised to have a representative from SWIF attend an upcoming meeting to give more details on how the program works.

Mayor Eder contacted Meeker County Development Corporation regarding the housing task force meetings. They don't have a definite schedule. Council tabled making an appointment.

Annual fire protection meeting will be Wednesday, February 13th at 8 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

Kramer noted an adjustment was made to the sewer charge on an account in the mobile home park. Public Works verified the pipe broke and water didn't go down the sanitary sewer. The adjustment was \$1,195.00.

Council discussed installing lock boxes on city buildings and decided they weren't necessary.

Public Works Director Geislinger presented a quote from KUE Contractors to replace the fire escape at the Village Hall. The escape is not safe. KUE quoted a steel escape landing with straight stairs, galvanized and installed for \$18,975.00. This price doesn't include digging 2 footings for columns. This was estimated to be an additional \$2,000.00.

MOTION BY LAUMER TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM KUE CONTRACTORS TO INSTALL A NEW STEEL FIRE ESCAPE, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Geislinger noted the water heater at the Village Hall goes in and out. He checked at Ertl Hardware for an on-demand system and the cost would be \$800.00. He needs to have Kramer Electric take a look at the electrical first to see if it could be done.

Geislinger noted that Viri Liebrenz would like to upgrade his flip phone to a smart phone. Viri would be able to monitor the water treatment plant with a smart phone. Verizon does have a promotion to get an iPhone7 at no charge. The increase in the monthly bill would be approximately \$20.00.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO UPGRADE VIRI LIEBRENZ'S PHONE TO A SMART PHONE, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Next regular meeting is Thursday, February 14th at 7 p.m.

Jody Bauer with the ambulance service stated that Teresa Carlson is the MN Star data entry clerk for the service. She enters in the reports for each call the service goes on. She is currently paid \$200/month for this. The members made a motion to increase to \$500/month. Wirz asked how many hours a month this requires. Jody estimated about ½ per call at 30 to 40 calls per month. Wirz felt this was a big jump. Jody stated she has been doing it at \$200 for a long time - around five years. Discussion followed.

MOTION BY LAUMER TO APPROVE THE INCREASE FOR TERESA CARLSON TO \$500/MONTH, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Jody also reported that 4 members are taking a driving training course in St. Cloud. The cost is approximately \$750 each. This would be for three new members and Duane Peterson, who would be taking it again.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE DRIVING COURSE FOR FOUR MEMBERS, SECONDED BY LAUMER.
MOTION CARRIED.

Jody noted the squad will be having its Christmas party February 16th. They have Paynesville Ambulance stationed here to cover any calls that evening.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY LAUMER. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Deb Kramer
Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder, Mayor