

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Eder, Tootz Tschumperlin, Sue Unterberger, Marc Wirz, Brenda Carlson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Items on the Consent Agenda were: minutes of December 10, 2015 regular meeting, December 2015 financial report, Resolution #2016-1-Resolution Accepting Donations, Resolution #2016-2-Resolution Approving Transfer of Funds and delinquent water bills for shutoff.

Public Forum- Jesse Mathies, owner of property at 131 Stearns Avenue North, was present regarding a letter sent to him to remove footings/concrete from property and to cap water/sewer lines. Jesse noted he would remove the footings in the spring. The sewer is capped and the water line was crimped. Public Works Director Steve Geislinger noted he would get that in his records. Jesse noted the person he is selling to is not planning to build on the lot. Council approved for the concrete to be removed in the spring.

Council reviewed the Ambulance Service monthly bills and 4th quarter report.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE 4TH QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Kelly Kelley noted the ambulance license renewal for \$240 was paid online with a personal credit card and the member needs to be reimbursed when the statement comes. Kelly asked approval to pay when it arrives.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE SHERIFF'S REPORT, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Council reviewed the list of appointments for 2016. Tri-County News had been appointed official paper after the Journal Patriot folded, but in 2015 the EV-W Voice was appointed. Discussion followed on

alternating between the two. Council agreed to appoint Tri-County News as the official paper for 2016 and alternate each year. Marc Wirz was appointed Shade Tree Commissioner.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WIRZ TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-3 WITH CHANGES MADE TO OFFICIAL PAPER AND SHADE TREE COMMISSONER, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

2016 APPOINTMENTS

Acting Mayor – Kathleen Tschumperlin
Street Commissioner – Kathleen Tschumperlin
Water Commissioner – Brenda Carlson
Sewer Commissioner – Brenda Carlson
Police Commissioner – Sue Unterberger
Shade Tree Commissioner – Marc Wirz
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 – Tri-County News, Kimball, MN
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 Water Treatment Operator shall also serve on the Eden Valley-Watkins Joint Water Commission Board.
Watkins Board of Adjustments – Jim Fuchs: 1-1-2016 to 1-1-2019

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-4, RESOLUTION APPROVING PAYMENT OF CERTAIN MONTHLY BILLS, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-5, RESOLUTION MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO CORPORATE AUTHORIZED SIGNERS FOR CITY OF WATKINS FOR THE YEAR 2016, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Watkins Baseball Association requested approval to conduct Bingo at Gordies Bar.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WIRZ TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-6, RESOLUTION APPROVING PERMISES PERMIT FOR WATKINS BASEBALL ASSOCIATION, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-7, RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MEEKER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-8, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE STAMPS FOR MAYOR AND ACTING MAYOR, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Eder reported the Planning Commission recommended by resolution the issuance of the Conditional Use Permit to Trevor Bakken and Jeff Johnson for Group Residential Housing to be allowed at 341 4th Street North.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-9, RESOLUTION APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WIRZ TO ALLOW FOREST PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP TO CONDUCT ITS ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL MEETING AT CITY HALL ON MARCH 8, 2016, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Annual Fire Protection meeting will be held Wednesday, February 10th at 8 p.m. at the Watkins Community Fire Hall.

Kramer reported the city is still trying to make contact with the owner of property at 151 First Street regarding the condition of the property.

Carlson noted she had a complaint with the condition of a home on [261] Central Avenue South. The stucco is falling off and some of it is boarded up. Tschumperlin noted she had a complaint on interior storage at a building on Central Avenue North. Council agreed there was really no violation there as everything is stored inside.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO SEND A LETTER TO THE OWNER OF PROPERTY AT 261 CENTRAL AVENUE SOUTH ALLOWING 30 DAYS TO CORRECT THE ISSUE, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Tschumperlin reported the EDA is in the process of purchasing the front lot along the highway at Glenshire Estates.

Parent Link System is used by the school district to contact parents with emergency messages, custom messages, etc. Superintendent Mark Messman contacted the city and asked if it would be interested in using the system for notifications to city residents. There would be no cost at this time. The school district's information and the city's information would be independent of each other. Council felt it would be a good idea and asked for more information for the February meeting.

Pool- Steve Geislinger noted the bathhouse/concession building could use a new roof. Council advised to get quotes on both steel and shingles. Management was discussed. Council agreed last year that the manager position should be posted every year and not automatically renewed. Carlson noted she will attempt once more to have the city laptop and cell phone returned. If no response, a formal letter will be sent.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO POST THE POOL MANAGER POSITION IN THE PAPER, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

The city's water and sewer connection fees were increased in 2014 from \$1,000 each to \$2,500 each. The fees were increased to cover the city's costs due to some that needed the services brought to the property line. The fee does include a water meter. Council discussed if this fee was fair if the lot already had water and sewer stubbed to the property line. Wirz noted he would check with area cities to see what their fees are.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE FEBRUARY MEETING WHEN MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-10, RESOLUTION APPROVING CLOSURE OF LEASE PAYMENT FUND, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Kramer noted the city has been asked to sign an access agreement to allow MPCA to do some soil borings in Central Avenue North right-of-way and by the city parking lot. They want to assess if petroleum contamination from a previous leak at the former Donnay Oil Company property is migrating off-site potentially posing a risk to nearby properties. There should be no risk to the city as it did not have any tanks in the area.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE AN ON-SALE TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE WATKINS LIONS CLUB BOCCE BALL EVENT FEBRUARY 20, 2016 AT THE SKATING RINK FACILITY, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Geislinger requested approval to have a back-up snow plow operator and recommended Bill Hennen be appointed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPOINT BILL HENNEN AS BACKUP SNOW PLOW OPERATOR, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Geislinger noted Barrier Technology had some runoff go into the city sewer system. American Environmental was out to jet it out and Barrier will cover that cost. Public Works is monitoring it and there hasn't been any more. The main will need more cleaning in the near future. Council agreed a written agreement should be in place for this.

Unterberger asked about the walking path at Glenshire Estates that was talked about at an earlier meeting. Mayor Eder noted he hasn't been able to connect with the land owner of one parcel. The easement going through Joe Rathmann's property is a utility easement only. Doing something on the property the EDA is purchasing was discussed. The road on the south side of the city pool is privately owned as well.

Next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 18th at 7 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADJOURN, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer
Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder
Mayor