

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2014

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Dennis Loch, Sue Unterberger, Melody Gertken, Jersey Piccerillo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jerry Hesse

Others: Holly Geislinger, EV-W Voice, Tri-County News, Kelly Kelley, Deputy Josh Case, Public Works Director Steve Geislinger, Duane Peterson, Mike Lease and Clerk Deb Kramer

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

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

Items on the Consent Agenda were minutes of the June 12th and 16th meeting, June 16th public hearing, June 30th special meeting, June financial report, Resolution #2014-18, Resolution Accepting Donations, #2014-19, Resolution Approving Transfers and delinquent water bills for shut off.

Public Forum-Holly Geislinger requested an off-site gambling permit for the Lions Club to sell pull tabs at Kraut n' Wurst Saturday, August 2nd at McCarthy Park.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2014-20, RESOLUTION APPROVING OFF-SITE GAMBLING, SECONDED BY GERTKEN. MOTION CARRIED.

Deputy Case reported there were 56 calls for service in June. Recent break-ins and graffiti incidences were discussed. Case noted that they need evidence to make an arrest. They cannot make an arrest based on the rumor mill. The department had reserves in a week or two ago working into early morning hours and have issued some citations for curfew violations. Case noted they are trying to be proactive and the reserves are not available all the time. Changing the schedule was discussed. Case note he would need to talk with the Sheriff about that. Case reported there are some empty mobile homes in the mobile home park they are planning to move out but don't have a definite time line. Council advised staff to check city ordinances to see if there is a time line that can be enforced. Council discussed drafting an ordinance to enforce a time line if there is not one.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE AUGUST 14TH MEETING TO ADDRESS ABANDONED HOMES, SECONDED BY GERTKEN. MOTION CARRIED.

Mike Lease updated on the baseball park improvements. The new scoreboard should be up in a couple weeks along with the rails on the grandstand. The party deck should be completed soon as well. They are looking to order more stadium seats to install in the grandstand.

The Ambulance Service 2nd quarter reports were reviewed. Kelly Kelley noted in the past they have had a cap of \$500 for mileage reimbursement for training but a member has exceeded that. Council advised that a mileage form need to be submitted but to stay with the cap.

Steve Geislinger noted that two quotes were submitted for the work at the water tower. Utility Service Group quoted \$34,068 and Maguire Iron quoted \$38,800. These repairs would address the public health and worker safety items noted in the inspection report. The quotes do not include an overall painting of the tower, just touch-up painting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO ACCEPT UTILITY SERVICE GROUP QUOTE FOR \$34,068 UNLESS THEY WANT A MAINTENANCE CONTRACT SIGNED, SECONDED BY GERTKEN. MOTION CARRIED.

There are four monitoring wells that need to be sealed at the wastewater pond site per MPCA. This must be done and documented to PCA by December 28, 2014. Steve has one quote and is working on getting another for the August meeting.

Sidewalk leveling-Steve found one contractor that does this work. A-1 Concrete Leveling viewed the sidewalk areas in question and submitted a quote of \$5,500.00 to raise approximately 71 sections of sidewalk. This company is the same one that did work at the pool a couple years ago. Right now they are scheduling out to the end of August.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE FROM A-1 CONCRETE LEVELING FOR \$5,500.00, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Steve presented a quote from Henkemeyer Coatings for \$6,500.00 for painting the pool. All prep work needs to be done by others. Steve didn't have a quote for sandblasting. Henkemeyer's quote is good for 30 days. Mayor Loch advised Steve to check with them on what prep work needs to be done and if they could extend the proposal an additional 30 days. Council tabled until next month.

Steve noted there were some issues with the sewer main on Highway 55 east. There was a manhole full of water. InfratechTechnologies was out and cleaned out about 900 feet of line. Work done so far is about \$4,500.00. Concrete was dumped into an end line right into the manhole. Council questioned who was responsible for the dumping. Any legal action would be a civil lawsuit. Infratech can televise the rest of it and give a quote for what the remainder of the cleaning would be. The estimate for the televising work was 4 hours at \$225 per hour.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO HAVE INFRATECH TECHNOLOGIES TELEVISION THE SANITARY SEWER, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Loch noted there is a problem with the lock on the Village Hall door. Steve will get some new keys cut and see if this takes care of the problem.

Steve noted that he did televise Keith Reinert's sewer line and is not sure where the problem is. Steve suggested the owner dig it up and see where the problem is and who would be responsible at that time. Mayor Loch noted he would talk to Reinert.

EDA Board vacancies- Tootz Tschumperlin contacted City Hall with interest in being appointed. Tschumperlin had prior service on the board as council representation. Kramer did not have her submit an application for that reason.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERTKEN TO APPOINT TOOTZ TSCHUMPERLIN TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. PICCERILLO VOTED NAY. MOTION CARRIED.

One vacancy still exists.

Property complaints-Ordinances will be reviewed and discussed at the August meeting.

Hilltop tax abatement assistance request-Kramer did not have information on abatement scenarios at meeting time.

Kramer noted that the EV-W Wellhead Protection Plan was selected for an audit. Information must be submitted by August 1st to MN Department of Health. MDH will then review and give results of the audit.

The law enforcement contract with Meeker County will expire December 31st. The past contracts have been two year cycles. Sheriff Norlin and County Coordinator Paul Virnig met with the Mayor and Clerk and proposed a \$1 per hour increase for 2015 and 2016. At this rate the county is still not covering all its costs. Piccerillo asked why the whole council was not at the meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO HAVE THE SHERIFF ATTEND THE AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING

Unterberger didn't feel it was necessary to have them come back this time but agreed next time they should attend a council meeting.

Piccerillo's motion died for lack of a second.

A mini-biff has been placed at McCarthy Park. Council reviewed a damage waiver acceptance which would release the city from liability for damage to the unit. Cost would be \$25 per month. If the city refuses the waiver, it would take full responsibility for any damage or destruction. Cost to replace the unit would be \$750.00.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERTKEN TO APPROVE THE DAMAGE WAIVER ACCEPTANCE, SECONDED BY PICCERILLO. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERTKEN TO DONATE \$2,500.00 TO THE PARADE FUND, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO NOT TO WAIVE THE CITY'S MONETARY LIMITS ON MUNICIPAL TORT LIABILITY ESTABLISHED BY MN STATUTES 466.04, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Council concerns- Mayor Loch asked about sump pump drains. The city does not have a policy that prohibits from draining into the street.

Piccerillo noted that the Lions Club would like to build a storage shed and asked if the city would loan money if needed. They would like to build this fall. Council noted more information would be needed.

Piccerillo noted the new playground system was being built at the park in Faber Addition on Saturday.

Council reviewed a location for a street light near the park in Faber Addition. The location would be at the T of Luella Street and Driftwood Avenue on the west side of Driftwood. This would be at no cost to the city other than monthly usage. If the city wanted it moved further north the cost would be \$800 plus monthly usage.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO HAVE THE LIGHT INSTALLED AT THE LOCATION PROPOSED BY XCEL ENERGY AT NO COST TO THE CITY, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Loch asked if it was possible to get the ambulance services bills along with the agenda packets on Monday before the meeting. Kelly noted that would not work due to the ambulance meetings sometimes falling in the same week.

Kelly asked if they have to turn in all receipts each month for reimbursements or if they can hold them until the end of the year and reimburse for them. Council advised it could wait until year end as long as they are approved by the council before paying.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERTKEN TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Loch recessed the meeting at 8:06 p.m. to wait for the pool manager. Mayor Loch reconvened the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

The pool manager wanted to ask for approval to buy an ad for the pool in the Tri-County News' Resource Guide. The deadline to get the discount is tomorrow.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERTKEN TO PURCHASE A SMALL AD IN THE RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE POOL AND PAY FOR TONIGHT TO GET THE DISCOUNT, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO GET THE POOL REPORT NEXT MONTH, SECONDED BY GERTKEN. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PICCERILLO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer, Clerk

ATTEST:

Dennis C. Loch, Mayor