

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Frank Eder, Tootz Tschumperlin, and Brenda Carlson. Melody Landwehr arrived at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Unterberger

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

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

Items on the Consent Agenda: Minutes of May 14, 2015 regular meeting, May financial report, Resolution #2015-20, Resolution Accepting Donations, Delinquent water bills for shut off.

Public Forum – Nothing

Ambulance Service – Duane Peterson reported the service would like to replace the carpet at the meeting room and it would be charged to the ambulance fund. Peterson noted it would be under \$1,000 to remove the old and install the new carpet.

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

Peterson also noted the service is short on hand-held radios. They would like to purchase 2 more and asked if one could be charged to the Rescue Fund. The ambulance service would pay for the other. Cost is \$2,385 each. The service has been asked to be available at all times when the state baseball tournament is running and they could use the extra radios. Peterson noted that the ambulance service takes care of purchasing most of the equipment for the rescue squad. Council would like to check into this further before buying and tabled until the July meeting.

Peterson also asked if it would allowable for him to set up a screen tent or something in his backyard to use as a staging area for the ambulance service during the baseball tournament. It would be a place for the members to come and go from that would be nearby the field. He would notify his neighbors as well. Council approved.

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

Deputy Defries reported the 4-wheeler issues have slowed down quite a bit. He spoke to three individuals who may have been the cause of the problems.

Jim Zilka with CenterPoint Energy noted the Watkins Fire Department applied for a grant through CenterPoint Energy's Community Partnership grant program and was awarded \$2,500 for PASS equipment. Jim noted this is an annual grant and encouraged the department to apply again.

Fire Chief Bruce Walz reported the department has gotten three different quotes on a new pumper truck. The department is leaning towards the Rosenbauer model. The estimated cost is around \$330,000 to \$340,000. The Equipment Replacement Fund is at \$155,950 and the city's share of \$10,000 will be added in July. The city didn't qualify for a grant from USDA RD but did qualify for a low interest loan of up to \$135,000 at 3.5% up to 15 years. There would be no pre-payment penalty with the loan. With the amount in the Equipment Replacement Fund and the full grant, funds would be at about \$300,000.00. The new truck will take about a year to get and another contribution of \$31,250 from the townships and city would be due to the Equipment Replacement Fund so the funding would be in place. The department would like to list the current truck for sale at \$99,500.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LANDWEHR TO ADVERTISE THE PUMPER TRUCK FOR SALE AT A PRICE OF \$99,500.00, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

City Engineer Kent Louwagie reported the water tower work is complete with the exception of a couple items to touch up. There is no pay request yet. Kuechle Underground will be paving the second lift on June 15th on the Luella Street Sanitary Sewer Extension project. Some black dirt and seeding will be needed and that project should be done. Kent noted the Luella Street Improvement project started June 10th. They are doing it in two phases starting with the east half of the street first. They are maintaining one driveway into Hilltop Health Care Center. The project should take 3 to 4 weeks to complete.

Chief Deputy Dan Miller presented a proposal for police services during the state baseball tournament. After talking with past host cities and other law enforcement Miller proposed a schedule of at least one deputy for all hours of scheduled tournament games and two deputies for Friday and Saturday nights. The contracted price is \$42.50 per hour for a total of \$4,335.00. Tschumperlin didn't feel coverage was needed for all hours of the tournament. It was noted the Baseball Association felt the same. Carlson disagreed. Miller isn't worried about problems at the field. He is concerned about traffic accidents and downtown activity. Miller has adjusted Deputy Defries schedule to cover game schedules as much as possible. Mayor Eder thought there should be coverage from 6 p.m. to after the bars close on the middle weekend. Carlson felt some extra coverage was needed. It was noted the championship game would be Monday, September 7th. Miller wasn't aware there was game scheduled for that date. More discussion followed. Miller noted he didn't need a decision tonight. He did call three other agencies that hosted the tournament. Maple Lake had some problems. He didn't know if they were daytime or evening incidents. Tschumperlin asked Miller to send the breakdown of hours to the city. Miller will check with Miesville to see if they had any problems when hosting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO TABLE THE ISSUE UNTIL THE JULY MEETING, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Landwehr asked if Miller could get more information on what calls were, what time of day, etc. Eder noted departments from neighboring communities could assist if available also. Carlson asked if the baseball team would help pay extra costs. Council will talk to the Clippers.

Eder noted they are looking for parking on one side only on some streets near the ball park during the state baseball tournament. He also noted that he spoke with the school district about parking for the pool during the tournament. The school will allow the city to put up three to four signs to reserve spots at the Watkins Elementary for pool patrons during the state tournament. The signs would need to come down when school is in session for a few days before Labor Day.

Planning Commission update- Verizon Wireless has requested a variance. Public hearing will be July 1st. The commission has recommended penalty fees for work done without getting an approved land use permit first. The recommendation was a \$250 penalty for Residential and Agriculture districts and \$500 for commercial and industrial districts. The commission will be discussing allowable materials for accessory buildings and residential pool regulations at its next meeting. The Planning Commission will meet July 8th instead of July 1st.

Pool Board update: Pool manager Nora Rohrbeck reported upcoming events were discussed at the last meeting. Dads will be offered free open swim on Father's Day. A lifeguard training course will be held at the pool June 19-21. The teen night scheduled for June 19th has been cancelled due to the training. Carlson noted that she and Unterberger are working on the job description for the manager and will submit for final approval. A manual will also be developed for the position. This should be ready for the July meeting.

Watkins Baseball Association has requested a temporary on-sale liquor license for the state baseball tournament for August 21-23, 27-30 and September 4-7.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST FOR AUGUST 21-23, 27-30 AND SEPTEMBER 4-7, SECONDED BY LANDWEHR. MOTION CARRIED.

Watkins Fire Relief Association requested a temporary on-sale liquor license for Kraut N' Wurst for July 31, August 1 & 2.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LANDWEHR TO APPROVE THE LICENSE REQUEST FOR JULY 31, AUGUST 1 & 2, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #2015-3, Ordinance Amending 2015 Fee Schedule, was reviewed. Council approved to add the recommended penalty fees for work without a land use permit to the schedule.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LANDWEHR TO ADOPT ORDINANCE #2015-3, ORDINANCE AMENDING 2015 FEE SCHEDULE WITH THE ADDITION OF THE PENALTY FEES, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Kramer reported that a public hearing needs to be held as part of the application process for the USDA RD funding application for the pumper truck.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO CALL FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE USDA RD FUNDING APPLICATION ON MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2015 AT 7 P.M. AT CITY HALL, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Kramer noted that Clearwater River Watershed District owns property on the northeast side of town and has received grant money to build a storm water treatment project. Kramer noted that a representative from CRWD could probably attend a meeting to explain the project if council wanted.

Council advised to have a draft of the summer newsletter available for the next meeting.

Kramer noted the violation letters sent after the city council tour have a deadline of June 28th. There is one notice that has not been picked up yet. Kramer noted one property on the list was not sent a letter. This property is zoned M-1 Industrial and the issue with the vehicles being parked on a non-paved driveway pertains to residential districts. No other violations were noted so a letter was not sent.

Steve Geislinger noted the crosswalks were painted and other general maintenance work has been done. Carlson asked about the epoxy paint used on the pool. She thought that would have filled the cracks better. Steve noted they used the mil that has been used before and it was sprayed on, not rolled on. Nora noted she spoke to Bob from Signature Aquatics and he felt it should have covered the cracks. He would come out to take a look when he is in the area since both she and Steve took the AFO (aquatic facility operator) course through him. Kramer will get council the contractor's warranty information and type of paint used.

Nora noted the number of lessons has surpassed last year. Having the schedule with available openings on the city's website has helped a lot. She noted there was a chemical issue with the water and the pool was closed today. There were 247 swimmers on Tuesday so that probably contributed to the issue. The issue has been resolved and it will be open on Friday. MN Department of Health will be out next week for its annual inspection. Farmers State Bank, Hilltop Health Care Center and Watkins Chamber are sponsoring 3 free swim days again this year. The dates are June 18th, July 16th and August 13th. Nora requested to get internet at the pool. Kramer noted she hadn't contacted Arvig yet for a price. Discussion followed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LANDWEHR TO GET INTERNET AT THE POOL IF UNDER APPROXIMATELY \$70 PER MONTH THROUGH ARVIG, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Nora has three local kids interested in taking the lifeguard training course. She has a trained instructor lined up. Cost would be \$240 per student. She approached the Sportsmen's Club for a donation to help defray the cost. The club agreed to donate \$300 for the course. Nora asked if the city would pay for the course up front and then have the students repay the city somehow. Discussion followed. Carlson noted the city couldn't do a contract with a minor. Eder asked if she approached any other local organization for a donation. Landwehr felt there should be some type of contract or something first. Nora noted it was hard for kids to get to the trainings at other locations. The instructor charges per student. The certification is good for three years and Nora felt they would be here for three years.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LANDWEHR TO PAY THE TRAINING COST UP FRONT AND THE CITY WILL PAY ONE-HALF OF THE LIFEGUARD TRAINING FEE FOR UP TO FIVE STUDENTS AND THE STUDENTS HAVE TO PAY ONE-HALF BACK TO THE CITY IF POOL MANAGER DOES NOT GET ADDITIONAL FUNDING, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Past policy has been for the city to supply one new swimsuit up to \$40 per season for lifeguards. Nora asked if she could order 5 suits at no more than \$40 each.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO APPROVE ONE SUIT PER LIFEGUARD UP TO A \$40 MAX, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Council concerns- Landwehr noted the owner of the shed that was moved into Glenshire Estates hasn't reroofed or resided as he said he would. As far as the city's zoning regulations he is in compliance. The homeowners in Glenshire Estates would have to enforce the covenants.

Landwehr submitted a written resignation from the council due to a medical condition. The resignation would be effective tonight.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2015-21, RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION AND DECLARING A VACANCY, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARLSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2015-22, RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR COUNCIL POSITION VACANCY, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Next council meeting shall be Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 7 p.m.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING, SECONDED BY LANDWEHR. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer
Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder, Mayor