

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017

Mayor Eder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

Question by Tschumperlin as to what was advised by the Auditors to adopt in the Consent Agenda. Mayor Eder explained that there were two resolutions, basically one resolution stating that revenue generated by service calls by the Ambulance Service be committed to the Ambulance Service Special Revenue Fund; all revenue from swimming lessons and daily pool revenue be committed to the Pool Maintenance Special Revenue Fund and all Economic Development Authority revenue shall be committed to the Economic Development Authority Special Revenue Fund.

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

Items on the Consent Agenda: minutes of the February 9, 2017 regular meeting, February 2017 financial report, Resolution #2017-10, Resolution Accepting Donations – Resolution #2017-11, Resolution Committing Revenue Sources – Resolution #2017-12, Resolution Adopting EFT Policy, delinquent water bills for shut off.

Public Forum – nothing

Nancy Schultzenberg with berganKDV presented the 2016 Audit Report. Nancy noted items such as lack of segregation of accounting duties and a deficiency regarding timely deposits of monies paid to the Ambulance Service as items to pay close attention to. The city was issued a clean opinion.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE AUDIT REPORT, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Carlson asked if the steel was installed on the two walls in the garage, Peterson responded that it had been done.

Bauer explained some of the larger expenditures in the bills for payment. She then addressed the issue of the late deposits due to a family illness and stated that in the future she would include a report of the deposits.

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

Bauer stated that an agreement has been made with Eden Valley Rescue and Kimball Rescue to ride or drive the Watkins ambulance if needed on a call by call basis. Also wanted to reserve the right to add members to the roster on short-term as needed for staffing needs.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AMBULANCE OFFICERS: CHIEF BONNIE HOLTHAUS, ASSISTANT CHIEF JEFF HILSGEN, TREASURER JODY BAUER, SECRETARY HEIDI DONNAY, RELIEF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS JENNIFER BROVOLD AND JOHN GRUENES, TRAINING OFFICER JULIE HILSGEN, EQUIPMENT MANAGER BONNIE HOLTHAUS, MN STAR SPECIALIST TERESA CARLSON, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Jenny Rowan approached the Council with an online petition to establish a Dog Park in Watkins. The petition had 95 signatures within a 15 mile radius of Watkins in favor of the Dog Park. Discussion followed regarding an appropriate site, liabilities, maintenance responsibility, raising funds, etc. There are only 12 dogs licensed within the city. More research needs to be done for this project and a committee may need to be formed to move this project forward.

Bruce Walz, Fire Chief, presented drawings and information on rebuilding the stands and bandstand in McCarthy Park that were destroyed by the tornado. The insurance company has recommended replacement costs that need to be followed, if the costs go over \$100,000, the bid process will need to be used. The Lions Club may be approached to contribute towards a handicap ramp at the bandstand.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE IMPROVEMENTS AT MCCARTHY PARK, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

Walz also stated that a fire department member will be retiring in May and another is close to retirement. The department advertised and received two applications. Both applicants are former members of the Eden Valley Department but had to resign due to moving out of their coverage area. The department runs with 25 members but Walz asked for approval of both and to run with one extra person temporarily.

MOTION BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF 1 MORE MEMBER TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENTS OF ADAM TEICHER AND JUSTIN RADEMACHER TO THE WATKINS FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINGENT ON BACKGROUND CHECKS, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Deputy Defries didn't have anything to report. Wirz questioned if anything was done regarding the damage in McCarthy Park by a 4-wheeler vehicle. Wirz shared pictures of the damage with the Council. In order to file criminal charges, the damages have to total \$500 or more. The person has been served several citations regarding the issue. The city will have to repair the damage to know what the cost will be and can then proceed with further charges. Wirz will contact a landscape company to give us an estimate.

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

MOTION BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL 3.2 MALT LIQUOR ON-SALE LICENSE REQUESTS FOR THE SEASON, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE THE CONSUMPTION & DISPLAY (SET-UP) PERMIT RENEWAL FOR KEEK'S RESTAURANT, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO TABLE UNTIL NEXT MONTH THE USDA AGREEMENT FOR FIRE TRUCK FUNDING, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Council discussed the Barrier Technology sewer issue. Geislinger presented the update stating that the lines have been cleaned out and things are running good now. Barrier has installed a filter press to eliminate product waste from entering the sewer system. The main is checked weekly. Before city water and sewer was extended to the property, a well and septic were used. The well, which is unmetered, is still being used for some production, along with city water. Public Works verified there are no cross connections. A lot of the water is used for making the flame retardant product and does not go down the drain. Barrier does pay full sewer charges on the city water use.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO GRANDFATHER IN THE WELL USED BY BARRIER TECHNOLOGY BUT IF IT FAILS, NOT TO BE REPLACED, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER THAT BARRIER WILL NOT BE CHARGED FOR THE ADDITIONAL SEWER CHARGE FOR THE WELL WATER, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO PURCHASE A NEW GAS MONITOR AS REQUESTED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AT A COST OF \$365.00, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Works stated that they will be doing seal coating on Meeker, Western and part of 4th and part of Central and other streets affected by the tornado. Everything south of the tracks and north Western and Meeker Avenues will be done. Estimated cost is \$90,000. The city will work with Meeker County on this.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE SEAL COATING PROJECT, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Carlson voiced concern about a house at 261 Central Avenue South that has not completed the improvements as he told council he would. The dumpster is overflowing as well. The completion date will be checked and property will be discussed at the April meeting.

Next regular meeting is April 13, 2017 at 7 p.m.

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

Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by

Jeanette Neidhardt
Asst. City Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder
Mayor