

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
WATKINS CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 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

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

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

Public Forum-Scott Brossard, 110 4th St N, was present regarding papers he received from the city about cleaning up his property. Brossard noted he has removed some of the items. Carlson noted the pictures were taken from the road after the last meeting. Brossard noted the chair is being removed. The bags of cans are gone as well as the pail. A lot of bushes were trimmed and cardboard that was blown in is gone. He noted the mower and some other items he has always parked where they are and they are covered. He can't get the motor home, which is up for sale, behind the house because of a power line but he can get it back further. Wirz noted anything to get it further from the road would be good. Brossard noted he would move it and asked council if there was anything else he needs to do. Wirz noted just to keep the property maintained. Brossard noted he has a garbage pile but will be putting some out weekly to be hauled away. He also noted he uses the tractor in the winter if he needs to. He will try to move that back a little bit also. Wirz noted to keep working on it and that should take care of it.

Amy Wilde, District 18 state senate candidate, introduced herself to the council. Wilde is also a former Meeker County Commissioner. She was here to listen and learn about issues facing the council.

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

MOTION BY WIRZ TO APPROVE THE 3RD QUARTER AMBULANCE REPORTS, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

The Ambulance Service requested approval to purchase new tires and reflective jackets for winter calls. The estimate on the tires is \$1,500.00 and \$4,000 for 20 jackets. Council approved.

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

Council reviewed the proposed law enforcement contract for 2017-2018. Carlson asked about the number of hours spent on meetings, etc. Deputy Defries noted it was minimal and he could check to find out for sure. The Drivers Awareness Diversion Program section has been removed from the

contract as that is no longer allowed. The contract is for 2,080 hours per year. Per hour rate would increase \$1/hour each contract year. The 2017 rate would be \$44.50 and 2018 would be \$45.50. MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO APPROVE THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT AS PRINTED, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

Nuisance Properties-230 Central Avenue South. The attorney has advised to get a better description and a list of what needs to be removed. The owner will be sent a notice of hearing to be held at the November 10th council meeting.

241 Western Avenue South- Letter was delivered giving them a 30 day deadline to clean up the back yard and finish construction of the shed.

261 Central Avenue South-Owner said previously he would have it repaired by end of October.

201 Church Street-camper is back in side yard. Scaffolding has been up for months. Council advised to send letter. Kramer noted the address is Church Street, so technically the camper is in the side yard. Kramer will research to see if anything can be done.

151 First Street-This is proceeding. Wirz asked if the city could get a timeline on this from the attorney.

Council reviewed the draft newsletter. Land use permits fees will be added.

MOTION BY CARLSON TO APPROVE THE NEWSLETTER WITH THE ADDITION, SECONDED BY UNTERBERGER. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE RENEWAL OF THE 2 A.M. LICENSE FOR GORDIES BAR, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY WIRZ TO APPROVE APPOINTMENTS OF FIRE CHIEF BRUCE WALZ AND ASSISTANT CHIEF RON KRAMER, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-33, RESOLUTION ADOPTING ASSESSMENTS FOR DELINQUENT WATER AND SEWER CHARGES TO 2017 PAYABLE TAXES, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2016-34, RESOLUTION ADOPTING ASSESSMENTS FOR DELINQUENT LAWN CARE CHARGES TO 2017 PAYABLE TAXES, SECONDED BY WIRZ. MOTION CARRIED.

Planning Commission update- Wirz noted there was an issue with building materials but it was taken care of.

The final items of concern in the Community Solar Garden Agreement have been agreed to. The attorney will move forward with drafting agreements for each premise eligible if the council wants to proceed.

MOTION BY UNTERBERGER TO PROCEED WITH REVIEWING THE CONTRACTS FOR THE SOLAR GARDEN, SECONDED BY CARLSON. MOTION CARRIED.

The easement for the welcome sign on city property is complete. The attorneys are still drafting the one for Mies Outland.

Carlson noted the joint water board met in September. The board proposed increasing the per thousand gallon charge that each city pays to the joint water treatment fund from \$4.50 to \$5.00. It has been at \$4.50 since the plant was built in 2000. Carlson went over recent increases in water and sewer rates. Rates in Watkins have not been increased since 2009. Current water rate is \$7/per month base fee and \$7.05 per thousand gallons. Council discussed increasing the city water rate 50 cents per thousand gallons. Carlson asked if the city should consider going to 60 cents rather than 50 cents. Council asked for more information on what the average water bill is for the next meeting.

MOTION BY CARLSON TO TABLE DISCUSSION UNTIL NEXT MONTH, SECONDED BY TSCHUMPERLIN.
MOTION CARRIED.

Council reviewed information from GovPayNet for processing credit card payments, including debit cards and prepaid cards. This would be at no cost to the city. All supplies would be furnished by GovPayNet. Cardholders would be charged the processing fee. They can pay online, by phone and onsite. There is a higher fee for using the phone payment center. The cardholder is made aware of the charges when calling and has a right to refuse if they don't want to pay the fee. Carlson felt the city should review the contract before moving forward.

MOTION BY WIRZ TO TABLE UNTIL NEXT MONTH TO REVIEW CONTRACT, SECONDED BY CARLSON.
MOTION CARRIED.

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

Kramer requested approval to purchase another fire file cabinet. Cost would be around \$1,965.00.

MOTION BY TSCHUMPERLIN TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF FIRE FILE CABINET, SECONDED BY EDER.
MOTION CARRIED.

Kramer noted EV-W School will be doing a Leadership Group to get students involved with their communities. Kramer asked if anyone had ideas of projects to be done around the community to let her know.

Discussion was held on internet security at City Hall. There is no guest network. Arvig was contacted and gave some options. After discussion it was decided to reset the Wi-Fi password at City Hall and to reset it on a regular basis.

Public Works Director Steve Geislinger noted 2 overhead doors at City Hall have been replaced and there are 4 left. He thought the motors on the openers were o.k. but requested approval to get bids to replace the rest of the doors. Council advised to get a couple quotes on the doors and also service contracts.

Geislinger noted Michels is installing a gas main along Highway 55. Kuechle Underground has been contacted to be sure they have a backhoe on hand in case they hit something when digging.

Geislinger noted the brush pile has been operating well this season.

Xcel Energy will be contacted about adding some street lights at the end of Cedar Avenue North and the corner of Julius Drive and Driftwood Avenue.

Geislinger also noted he would like to get a quote to install a catch basin in the north right of way of 2nd Street North and Stearns Avenue. He would like to install it before getting a bid for street improvements at the mobile home park next year.

Carlson noted she would not be at the November meeting.

Next meeting will be Thursday, November 10th at 7 p.m. Council will need to recess the meeting to canvass the election results within the required time period.

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

Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by

Deb Kramer, Clerk

ATTEST:

Frank Eder, Mayor