

City of Bigfork
City Council Meeting
April 10, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Amy Pifher, Paul Gustafson and Ben Maxa

Members Absent: Andrew Francisco

Also Present: Robyn Heinle, Dean & Michelle Haley, Justin & Gabby Root, Ella, Jessie, & Derek Root, John Thomas, Warren & Caroline Welch, David Mann, John & Carol VanNyhuis, Joe Zimmer, Travis Lovdahl

Mayor Pifher called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the public forum was opened. As no one wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

Fire Chief Travis Lovdahl and Resolution 2018-05 were added to the agenda. ***Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Pifher, seconded by Maxa, motion carried unanimously (MCU).***

Consent Agenda: Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda including:

- 1. minutes of the March 13 regular and March 27 special City Council meetings,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for March 2018,***
- 3. financial reports for March 2018,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for March 2018,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for March 23 and April 6 regular payrolls in the amount of \$6,754.89***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$6,155.04 and claims for payment in the amount of \$83,182.23***

Resolution 2018-05: Robyn Heinle was present from Bigfork School with a request for a resolution of support for the establishment of a school forest. She gave a brief overview of the history of the project and the planned outcomes. ***Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson to adopted Resolution 2018-05, MCU.***

Heinle thanked the Council and exited the meeting at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Vacant City Council Seat: Two letters of interest were received for the seat vacated by Peter Johnson. One of the interested parties, David Mann, was present and introduced himself. ***Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, to appoint David Mann to fill the seat until December 31, 2018, MCU.*** A special election will be held in November 2018 for the last two years of this seat. The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mann.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Tax Forfeit Parcels for Auction: Notice was received from Itasca County of two parcels to be approved for tax forfeit auction. Tract 3 is the York property on Cedar Street and Tract 61 is just north of Justin Root's property. Root explained to the Council that he had arranged with Itasca County to have that property removed from tax-forfeit status. ***Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, to approve only Tract 3 for auction, MCU.***

Planning & Zoning Commission Recommendation: The Planning & Zoning Commission forwarded a recommendation to the Council to quit claim deed parcel number 85-027-5511 and a portion of parcel 85-027-3311 to the adjacent landowners. Pifer reviewed that the PL&Z had gone over this in detail at their meeting last week. There is no reason for the City to own the property and it makes sense for the adjacent landowners to divide it and get it back on the tax rolls. The landowners are responsible for getting the property surveyed and to provide proper legal descriptions to the City. ***Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, to accept the recommendation, MCU.***

Temporary Airport Hangar Lease: A request was received to lease space in the City's hangar for \$50 per month. There is one temporary lessee already who has been paying \$75 per month. Council was of the consensus that the \$75 monthly rate should be paid.

Seasonal Part-Time Public Works Position: Joe Zimmer requested a seasonal, part-time worker for the Public Works Department. The money to cover this cost is available in the general fund budget. The item was tabled.

Computer Quotes for PW Department: This item was tabled as quotes were not received in time for the meeting.

MnDOT Variance for Dollar General: MnDOT has contacted the City for their opinion on an application for a variance for Dollar General to clear cut trees along State Hwy 38 on the property they are looking to develop just south of the Fire Hall. Council was of the general consensus that they would prefer the trees not be clear cut. There was much discussion on whether or not this potential development would be good for the community or not, however since the property is outside City limits, the City has no say in the matter.

Fire Chief – Table & Chair Purchase: Chief Lovdahl reported that the Sawmill Inn in Grand Rapids closed for business earlier in the year and there is an auction of all furniture and fixtures next week. The Council was agreeable to Lovdahl attending the auction to purchase up to 200 chairs and a half dozen tables for the Fire Hall and City Hall.

OTHER:

The annual city-wide clean up days will be Friday and Saturday May 18 and 19. Zimmer noted that the advertising needs to make it clear that only taxpayers or residents of the City

of Bigfork are eligible to participate. Lovdahl requested that the volunteer fireman be allowed to take advantage of the service. The Council felt that was a reasonable benefit to provide to the firemen for all the time they put in.

REMINDER: May's Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at The Edge Center.

Motion to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. by Mann seconded by Gustafson, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
May 15, 2018

Mayor