

City of Bigfork

Work Session & Regular City Council Meeting November 10, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Amy Pifher, Andrew Francisco, Peter Johnson and Eric Storlie

Members Absent: Randy Nei

Also Present: Warren & Caroline Welch, Brian Rajala, Curt Meyer, Pat Conroy, Travis Lovdahl and Matt Sheppard

Mayor Pifher called the work session to order at 7:00 p.m. The invoice from Powell Excavating was removed from the claims list and added as the last item under Unfinished Business. Opening of bids on the public works truck was added under New Business. Fuel Purchase Options was removed from the agenda.

Johnson noted that the Public Works employees should be filling out daily and vehicle logs in more detail. The Clerk was asked to research reserved parking spaces for veterans/wounded veterans for the December meeting. Pifher closed the work session and opened the regular meeting at 7:16 p.m.

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

Motion by Johnson to approve the agenda as amended during the work session, seconded by Francisco, motion carried unanimously (MCU).

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

- 1. minutes of the October 13th regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for October 2015,***
- 3. Financial reports for October 2015,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for October 2015,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for Oct 9th, 23rd and Nov 6th paydays in the amount of \$9,266.85***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$5,857.96 and claims for payment in the amount of \$41,430.54 (with the exception of the claim from Powell Excavating)***

Results of the October 13, 2105 Closed Meeting: At the closed meeting held on October 13, 2015, a performance review of City Clerk/Treasurer Angie Storlie was conducted. Storlie earned satisfactory rankings on her review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Water Study Report: Curt Meyer with Widseth, Smith & Nolting provided copies of the cost estimate for drilling a new well in the same aquifer as our existing well. He reviewed, as he had at the September meeting, that the water study found the aquifer that we are already accessing to be the best location for a backup well. He also provided a cost estimate for converting from gas to liquid chlorine. WSN's funding specialist, Pat Conroy, reviewed four possible funding options including IRRRB, Small Cities Development Program, Public Facilities Authority, and Minnesota Rural Water. IRRRB is the only option that would allow us to construct in 2016. While we wait for their application form to become available, WSN will send an initial letter to them with information about the project. If a grant is not received from IRRRB, the City can compare the other three options.

Resolution 2015-07 – Supporting Bustic Lake Name Correction: Brian Rajala was present to discuss this proposed resolution with the Council. He is of the opinion that the true name of Bustic Lake (located just south of the City on State Hwy 38) is “Bustie Lake” after Chief Busticogan and he is asking the Council’s support of his efforts to get this error corrected. Rajala provided maps and other documents dating back to the 1950s showing the lake as “Bustie Lake”. It is his belief that sometime in the past, a typographical error caused the name to be changed to Bustic. ***Motion by Johnson to pass Resolution 2015-07, seconded by Francisco, motion carried with E. Storlie opposing.***

Resolution 2015-13 – IRRRB Commercial Redevelopment Grant Application: The City is being asked to update the resolution for this grant application which is for the demolition of the old telephone office building located at 308 Main Avenue. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by E. Storlie to adopt Resolution 2015-13, MCU.***

Resolution 2015-14 – Transfer of Funds: This resolution transfers funds from the general investment fund to the checking account to cover the cost of the new public works truck. ***Motion by Johnson, seconded by E. Storlie to approve Resolution 2015-14, MCU.***

Traffic Signage: As discussed at the last meeting, the Clerk provided pricing information on blinking red lights for the top of stop signs. The Council did not feel it was worth the \$1,795 cost of each light. The Clerk was directed to request a “Stop Ahead” sign or lane painting on Scenic Hwy 7 from Itasca County.

Powell Excavating Invoice: The Council was not satisfied with the reclaimed asphalt project on Salmi Blvd. The invoice from Powell Excavating will not be paid until they are contacted about filling in potholes and packing the alley again.

Truck Bids: Two bids were received on the blue public works truck. ***Motion by Johnson to accept the bid for \$310 from George Custer, seconded by Francisco, MCU.***

NEW BUSINESS

City Clerk Employment Agreement: The Clerk has requested that the details of her employment arrangement be documented in a contract. The proposed contract was reviewed by the Council and changes noted including that paid holidays will be those defined in M.S. 645.44 Subd. 5, including the optional holidays of Columbus Day and the Friday after Thanksgiving, a correction that sick leave benefits are based on 2080 hours per year rather than 2040 hours, eligibility for cell phone reimbursement, a salary of \$45,500 annually, and that the City may terminate employment for failure to perform the duties of the position. ***Motion by Johnson, seconded by Francisco to approve the employment contract with the City Clerk/Treasurer with the changes discussed above, MCU.***

Resolution 2015-15 – Mail Balloting: This resolution approves the use of mail-in ballots for municipal elections. Returning to this method of election administration will save the City \$2,300 per election year. ***Motion by Francisco seconded by Johnson, to adopt Resolution 2015-15, MCU.***

OTHER

Wannigan Visitors Report: A report on the number of visitors to the Wannigan at the Kiosk Park was provided by Gene Madsen. There have been 4,260 visitors since 2006. They have come from 43 of our 50 states and from 14 different countries.

Motion to adjourn by Johnson at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Francisco, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
December 8, 2015

Mayor