

City of Bigfork

Work Session & Regular City Council Meeting

November 12, 2014

5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Amy Pifher, Krista Lane, Dave Evensen, Peter Johnson, Randy Nei

Members Absent: none

Also Present: Scott Patrow, Aaron Saude, Leo Kern, Tim Johnson, Becky Passeri, Gus David

Mayor Pifher called the work session to order at 5:30 p.m. Rural Community Coordinator Tim Johnson gave an update on the RiverWalk Trail project, noting that \$934,000 of the estimated \$1.15 million needed has been raised already. We will be looking at a couple of different sources to fund the remaining amount, including another DNR program and the Safe Routes to School infrastructure program. There is a chance that the final costs will come in lower than the preliminary estimates, mainly in regard to the footbridge rehabilitation. Short-Elliott-Hendrickson was chosen to complete the final design for the project. Anticipated construction is for the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016 with completion in the fall of 2016 or spring of 2017. Johnson stated that the purpose of meeting tonight with representatives from the hospital and school district was to discuss possible partnerships for the future maintenance of the trail. He noted that as part of the requirements for certain grants, the City has committed to 20 years of maintenance on the trail. Scott Patrow representing the school, and Leo Kern and Aaron Saude representing the hospital all expressed interest in their entities partnering with the City, pending more information on the exact commitment. Johnson noted that SEH will be required to meet with all entities as part of completing the final design and more detailed information will be available at those meetings. Johnson, Patrow, Saude and Kern were thanked for coming. Johnson, Patrow and Saude exited the meeting at this time.

Pifher called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Also Present for Regular Meeting: none

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

Proposals for 2014/2015 snow plowing and grading were added to the agenda. *Motion by Lane to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Evensen, motion carried unanimously (MCU).*

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

- 1. minutes of the October 14th regular City Council meeting,*
- 2. City Clerk's office report for October 2014,*
- 3. Financial reports for October 2014,*
- 4. Public Works Department report for October 2014,*
- 5. payroll and timecards for October 10th and 24th paydays in the amount of \$6,357.45*
- 6. labor agreement between the City of Bigfork and International Union of Operating Engineers' Local No. 49 for January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017,*

7. claims paid in the amount of \$4,978.36 and claims for payment in the amount of \$36,033.49

Results of October 14, 2014 Closed Meeting: Pifher reported that at the closed meeting held on October 14, 2014, a performance review of City Clerk/Treasurer Angie Storlie was conducted. Storlie received a satisfactory result on her review and was congratulated for recent accomplishments including earning certification as a Minnesota Master Municipal Clerk from the Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers Association and being appointed as the administrative assistant of that organization.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Well Project Pay Application #15: Pay application #15 covers final work from change order #7 which included complete sealing of wells #3 and #5, site clean-up/restoration work, and demobilization costs. *Motion by Evensen seconded by Nei to approve pay application #15 in the amount of \$16,979, MCU.*

NEW BUSINESS

Canvass of 2014 Election Results: Pifher read the results of the November 4, 2014 general election. There were 205 voters registered as of 7:00 a.m. on Election Day and 13 new registrants on Election Day for a total of 218 registered voters. 153 ballots were cast. Amy Pifher received 121 votes for Mayor and is the winner of that seat. Eric Storlie received 123 votes for City Council Member and is the winner of that seat. Andrew Francisco received 10 write-in votes for City Council Member and is the winner of that seat. Peter Johnson received 120 votes for the special City Council Member seat (two year term) and is the winner of that seat. *Motion by Nei, seconded by Evensen to accept the results of the November 4, 2014 general election as reported, MCU.*

Recognition of Winter Hazard Awareness Week: Pifher noted that November 10-14, 2014 is Winter Hazard Awareness Week. Information will be posted on the City's Facebook page with links to the various online resources and a note will be added to November utility bills.

Assessment of Past Due Utility Bills: Storlie presented a list of properties with delinquent utility bills. *Motion by Evensen, seconded by Lane to certify these accounts to the Itasca County Auditor for collection with 2015 property taxes, MCU.*

Planning & Zoning Commission Recommendations

Park Use Policy: The Planning & Zoning Commission presented a proposed update to the park use policy which defines rules for park use and camping in parks. *Motion by Evensen, seconded by Nei to update the policy as recommended, MCU.*

2015 Water Rates: After review of information provided by David Drown Associates, the Planning & Zoning Commission is recommending that the base water rate for 2015 be increased by 20% and that the rate per 1,000 be set at \$6.95 for all meter sizes. *Motion by Evensen, seconded by Lane to accept this recommendation, MCU.*

Resolution 2014-21: This resolution sets a public hearing for a proposed vacation of portions of Elm and Spruce streets as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. *Motion by Lane, seconded by Nei to approve Resolution 2014-12, MCU.*

Plowing/Grading Contract: Proposals were received for 2014/2015 plowing and grading services. *Motion by Johnson to accept the low bid from Gus David for plowing of certain city streets whenever there is 2" of snow or more for a cost of \$250 per time, seconded by Evensen, motion carried with*

Lane opposing. No action was taken on the proposals for airport snow plowing or street grading services.

OTHER:

David asked about the placement of a “children at play” sign along River Street. Johnson asked about lowering the speed limit on all city streets. Lane reminded the Council that this issue had been brought up numerous times before and had been tabled indefinitely.

Pifher closed the meeting at 6:44 p.m. for the purpose of conducting labor negotiations.

Motion to reopen the meeting at 6:47 p.m. by Evensen, seconded by Nei MCU.

Motion to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. by Nei, seconded by Evensen, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer