

City of Bigfork
City Council Meeting
September 12, 2017
6:00 p.m.

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Aaron Gould, Ryan Davies, Joe Zimmer, Curt Meyer, Becki Passeri, Warren Welch

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pifher closed the meeting for the purpose of union negotiation strategy discussion. The meeting was reopened at 6:17 p.m.

Resolution 2017-07 was added to the agenda under New Business.

Motion by E. Storlie to approve the agenda as amended, 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 August 8, 2017 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for August 2017,***
- 3. financial reports for August 2017,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for August 2017,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for August 11 and 25 in the amount of \$6,141.14***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$5,430.03 and claims for payment in the amount of \$25,760.75***
- 7. transfer of \$3,500.00 from the Gambling Tax Fund to the General Fund for the disc golf and skating rink projects***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Union Negotiations: Ryan Davies, business agent for IUOE Local 49 was present to discuss a second-draft proposal in response to the Council's counter-proposal. No agreement was reached. A closed session was scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. to continue the negotiation.

Water Project Bids: Curt Meyer of Widseth, Smith & Nolting was present with the bid tabulation from the bid opening which took place September 7, 2017. Bids received were as follows:

- \$108,650 from Mark J Traut Wells
- \$139,400 from Thein Well Company, Inc.

Meyer explained that the bidders had a very hard time finding subcontractors willing to come to Bigfork and do this size of a project which is why the bids came in significantly higher than the \$80,000 estimate.

The Clerk noted that the City received a \$75,000 emergency grant from the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) for this project. Meyer added that we will need to clarify with IRRRB if that grant is contingent on the City completing both the new well and the disinfection system change-over, or if all funds can be used for the well. The remaining \$33,650 will need to be taken from the City's Water Investment Fund.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by E. Storlie to award the bid to Mark J Traut Wells contingent upon IRRRB allowing all the grant funding to be spent on the well, MCU.

Meyer noted that he had talked with the Clerk about applying to the State's Local Road Improvement Program for funding for Ash Street and South Rajala Mill Road improvements. WSN will work with the City to provide the information needed for the grant application at no cost.

Temporary Public Works Position: Public Works Lead Joe Zimmer recommended that the Council hire Paul Gustafson for the temporary position. ***Motion by Pifher seconded by Maxa to accept this recommendation, motion carried with E. Storlie opposing.***

Recreation Activities: Johnson reminded the Council that he was looking for ways in which the City could promote the new disc golf course and skating rink, and encourage people to be more active during the winter months. This item was tabled until the October meeting. Community input will be solicited via the City's Facebook page in the meantime.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2017-04: This resolution accepts the grant agreement with MnDOT for state fiscal years 2018 and 2019 airport operation and maintenance. ***Motion by E. Storlie and seconded by Francisco to adopt resolution 2017-04, MCU.***

Resolution 2017-05: This resolution adopts the preliminary budget and levy for 2018. ***Motion by Francisco and seconded by E. Storlie to adopt resolution 2017-05, MCU.***

Resolution 2017-06: This resolution authorizes application to the IRRRB Culture and Tourism Grant program for Phase 2 of the City Hall Restoration project. ***Motion by Johnson and seconded by Maxa to adopt resolution 2017-06, MCU.***

Resolution 2017-07: This resolution accepts the grant agreement with MnDOT for a new mower for the airport. ***Motion by E. Storlie and seconded by Pifher to adopt resolution 2017-07, MCU.***

Proposed Changes to Airport Lease: Robert Thydean has proposed a new form of lease agreement for airport hangar lots. The proposal was reviewed by the League of Minnesota

Cities and their comments were provided to the Council. This item was tabled until October to give the Councilmembers more time to review the document.

Bids for 2017/2018 Plowing: The Clerk was directed to advertise for bids on snow plowing services for the winter of 2017/2018.

Motion to adjourn by Pifher at 6:55 p.m., seconded by Johnson, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer