

City of Bigfork
Regular City Council Meeting
September 12, 2019
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bryan Boone, David Mann and Paul Gustafson

Members Absent: Drew Francisco, Ben Maxa, Junior Councilmembers Hannah Johnson and James Rauzi

Also Present: Sally Sedgewick, McKenzie & Brady Thomas, Dan Meyer, Joe Zimmer, James Parks, Pam & James Lepinski, Matt Niemala, Warren Welch, Joe Sutherland, Gary & Junell Erickson, Bruce & Gretchen Gerth, Terry & Kevin Peterson

Mayor Boone called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Framed artwork of City Hall photographs from the 1950s and after the restoration in 2019 was received from the Bigfork Improvement Group.

The public Forum was opened. Several residents of the Scenic Estates Development were present to discuss a potential sale of lots within the District for the purpose of building multi-family rental units. Those who spoke expressed a desire for the development to continue to be for single-family, owner-occupied housing only.

As no one else wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

Motion by Mann to approve agenda with the amendment to move the Scenic Estates TIF District Issues immediately after the Consent Agenda, seconded by Gustafson, MCU

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

- 1. minutes of the August 8 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for August 2019,***
- 3. financial report for August 2019,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for August 2019,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for August 9 and 23 regular payrolls in the amount of \$7,990.05***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$36,458.43 and claims for payment in the amount of \$38,275.70***
- 7. approval of Resolution 2019-11 – authorizing application to and accepting funds from the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Agency for various projects in State Fiscal Year 2020***
- 8. approval of Resolution 2019-12 – executing MnDOT grant agreement for airport improvements***
- 9. approval of Resolution 2019-13 – setting the preliminary budget and levy for 2020***

Scenic Estates TIF District Issues: Boone explained that questions have arisen on both past and pending activity within the District. Due to the complexity of the issue, it was Boone's recommendation that the Clerk be authorized to work with the attorney who drafted the TIF development agreement to interpret it, identify any non-complying activity, and propose a resolution. All present expressed a desire to attempt to find a resolution that would not negatively impact either the Developer, the residents of the District, or the City. ***Motion by Boone to authorize the City Clerk to work with Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick on this issue, seconded by Gustafson, MCU.*** The Clerk was directed to post notice on the City's Facebook page when this issue will be discussed again.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WSN Engineering Updates: Joe Sutherland of Widseth-Smith-Nolting was present with an update on the Rajala Lift Station repair. Construction plans and bidding documents should be complete within two weeks. He requested the Council's permission to advertise for bids once that is done. Bids will be opened at the October Council meeting. The necessary funding from Rural Water will be applied for at that time as well. ***Motion by Gustafson, seconded by Mann to authorize WSN to advertise for bids for this project. MCU.***

Joe Zimmer – Nuisance Ordinance Violations in Eagle's Nest and Scenic Hwy 7 Signage:

Zimmer noted that significant progress has been made on the blight issues within Eagle's Nest mobile home park. It was not necessary to charge any fines. Zimmer will stay in touch with the park owner to ensure continued compliance.

Zimmer reported on his contact with Itasca County regarding the Scenic Highway 7 speeding issues discussed at the last meeting. The County has agreed to do a speed study either this fall or in the spring. They will also install a city limit sign for approximately \$275. ***Motion by Gustafson to have Itasca County install the sign, seconded by Mann, MCU.***

Softball Field: Zimmer reported that most of the fencing has been unloaded at the site and the Public Works crew will go to Littlefork next week to pick up the rest of the fencing and the bleachers. He is working on getting price quotes for the infield material. The Clerk was directed to apply for an IRRRB Culture & Tourism grant to help with the cost of that material and dugouts/concession stand. Zimmer will talk to the high school shop teacher to see about students constructing those buildings.

CEDA First Impression Report: The First Impression Report was provided to the City as part of the work that Community and Economic Development Associates is doing for Itasca County. Information from the report will be used in the update of the City's comprehensive plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Airport Hangar Lot Lease Agreement: Boone reviewed that the privately-owned hangar at the airport has changed ownership and the new owner wishes to enter into a lease agreement with the City for the property the hangar sits on. The City is in need of somewhere to park the plow truck that will be left at the airport and the hangar owner has proposed to charge the City the same amount for a parking fee as the City charges for the hangar lease, thereby creating a wash.

Motion by Gustafson, seconded by Boone to approve the lease agreement and the parking fee, MCU.

Ordinance #188 – Amending Titles I, III and V: The Planning & Zoning Commission has reviewed Titles I, III and V of the Bigfork City Code of Ordinances in regard to updates recommended by American Legal Publishing Company. The updates relate to verbiage and organization of regulations within the Code, not content. ***Motion by Mann, seconded by Gustafson to adopt Ordinance #188, MCU.***

The approval of Ordinance #188 summary for publication was tabled due to the need for a 4/5th Council vote.

Motion to adjourn by Mann at 6:23 p.m., seconded by Gustafson, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer