

City of Bigfork
Regular City Council Meeting
September 9, 2021
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bryan Boone, David Mann (via Zoom), Paul Gustafson

Members Absent: Ben Maxa, Drew Francisco, Junior Council Member Lily Danielson

Also Present: Joe Zimmer, Curt Meyer, Gary Erickson

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Public Forum was opened. Gary Erickson asked the Council to readdress law enforcement coverage in the City. He stated that he has been the victim of theft and ATV trespassing. Erickson also thanked the Public Works Department for the great job they did cleaning up the beach property after rodeo weekend.

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

The seasonal public works position and a vacation request from Joe Zimmer were added to the agenda. ***Motion by Boone to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Gustafson, motion carried unanimously (MCU).***

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

- 1. Minutes of the August 12, 2021 regular and August 26, 2021 special City Council meetings***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for August 2021,***
- 3. financial report for August 2021,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for August 2021,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for Aug 20 and Sept 3 regular payrolls in the amount of \$8,518.77***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$6,151.91 and claims for payment in the amount of \$18,420.09***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tim Johnson – Bigfork School & Community Project Update: Tabled until October.

WSN – Water Tower Repair Timeline: Curt Meyer, Widseth Engineering, addressed the Council regarding the repairs needed on the water tower. He noted that KLM Engineering performed the inspection in 2019 and they recommended 2024 as the maximum year to push the work out to. The expected cost is about \$520,000 if done in 2024. Meyer cautioned that the market is incredibly volatile right now, making it very hard to give an accurate cost estimate. This is especially true for water tower projects because several smaller companies folded during the pandemic. The ones that survived are in the south where the construction season is longer. This will increase mobilization costs. Another factor is a law change coming in January 2023 regarding the type of coating that can be used. This will require special equipment and could drive up costs.

Meyer noted that a full-time on-site inspector is typical for a water tower project at a cost of around \$55,000. He anticipates that bidding documents and administrative costs will be around \$80,000.

Meyer noted the City is on the Project Priority List with the State of Minnesota Public Facilities Authority which is the first step in pursuing grants and low-interest loans. After the first of the year, Meyer and the funding specialist from Widseth will meet with the clerk and public works department to discuss the different funding options and timelines.

Bids for Truck and Snowblower: Three bids were received for the truck and two for the snowblower. *Motion by Gustafson, seconded by Mann, to accept the bid from Rodney Ernhart for the 2003 Chevy plow truck in the amount of \$2,567, MCU. Motion by Mann seconded by Gustafson to accept the bid from Josh Farris for the snowblower in the amount of \$600, MCU.*

NEW BUSINESS

Seasonal Public Works Position: The Council discussed changing the seasonal, part-time Public Works position to a year-round position that would work 10 hours per week for 8 months out of the year and 30 hours per week for 4 months. There was some concern about the impact on the budget. No action was taken.

Resolution 2021-16 – 2022 Preliminary Budget & Levy: The Budget Committee forwarded their recommendation for the preliminary 2022 budget totaling \$885,584.66 and the preliminary 2022 tax levy in the amount of \$200,000 which is a 1.5% increase from last year's levy. *Motion by Mann, seconded by Gustafson to adopt Resolution 2021-16, MCU.*

Vacation Payout Request: *Motion by Gustafson, seconded by Mann to approve payout of 41 hours of accumulated vacation time to Storlie, MCU.*

Public Information session on Wellhead Protection: Joe Zimmer reviewed Part 1 of the Wellhead Protection Plan. This includes delineation of the wellhead protection area and drinking water supply management area, as well as a vulnerability assessment. He noted there are no significant vulnerabilities existing and added that the City's testing numbers are always well within the required ranges.

OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A vacation request from Zimmer for October 7 through 15 was approved in a *motion by Boone, seconded by Gustafson, MCU.*

Motion to adjourn at 6:22 p.m. by Gustafson, seconded by Mann, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
October 14, 2021

Mayor