

**City of Bigfork**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**February 13, 2024**  
**5:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Bryan Boone, Sarah Scheff, Jerry Denny, Samantha Olson  
Members Absent: Ben Maxa  
Also Present: Sally Sedgwick

Mayor Boone called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Reverend Boone opened with a prayer.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Public Forum was opened.

Sally stated that the Bigfork representative for the Hospital Board would be opening up so anyone interested can submit their interest to the Hospital.

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

**Add ISD 318 Funding for School Project under Unfinished Business. Motion by Scheff to approve the agenda, seconded by Olson, motion carried unanimously (MCU).**

**Consent Agenda: Motion by Denny seconded by Scheff, and MCU to approve the consent agenda including:**

1. Minutes of the January 9, 2024, Regular City Council meeting,
2. City Clerk's office report for January 2024,
3. Financial report for January 2024,
4. Public Works Department Report for January 2024,
5. Payroll and timecards for January 19, 2024, and February 2, 2024, regular payrolls, in the amount of \$8,240.16
6. Claims paid from January 2024, in the amount of \$8,637.41 and claims for payment in the amount of \$39,868.44

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Community Arena:** Sam stepped out of her council seat to talk about the community arena project. At the November meeting the Community Arena Project was introduced to the City. The City asked the committee to gather some more information and create a project plan to present to the Council. They are currently working towards getting estimates on the materials. So far it has been estimated to cost around \$21,000.00. They are hoping to get funding through grants,

city assistance with funding and grant writing, donations, and fundraisers. The committee is also looking for approval of their plan for the project so they can move forward with gathering the funds. Bryan asked Sam how they plan to handle the maintenance needed out there. Sam said it would be done on a volunteer basis from the 4H club and the project committee. All equipment that would be needed for the maintenance would be planned to be purchased with their fundraising money. Right now, they are asking for permission to move forward with their planning so that they can start to look at grant options and start planning fundraisers for the funds. **Motion to approve the plan for the Community Arena Project by Scheff, seconded by Denny, and MCU.**

**ISD 318 1.5M Funding for Bigfork Community School Project:** Matt Grose reached out to Bryan regarding the 1.5M that we were granted from the State for the School Project. Originally the City was to be the fiscal agent for this money. However, the state legislature is working on changing the process for this money to be received directly by the School district. By doing this it will cut the city out of the responsibility of putting insurance on the funds, and the building, and will keep us from entering into a legal long-term lease with the School district for this facility. Matt will reach out to the City once they receive more information on this.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Airport Security:** Over the last few months, it has been reported that people have been driving on the airport runway. This is highly illegal. Over the last few weeks damage has been reported to the runway and there has been a broken runway light. The public works employees have been checking the airport daily to check for any further damage. Paul also posted more signs on the gate and had to replace the bungy cord that held the gate closed. The current renter of the City's airport hangar also expressed concern as he has a small plane out there being stored. Denny stated that he had some knowledge on security cameras and file storage that would be needed to store the footage. He said he would look further into what the city would need at the airport and bring his suggestions to the next meeting.

**Resolution 2024-04: Decertifying TIF #917 Wildernest Housing:** The debt for the Wildernest Townhomes TIF has been paid as of December 2023. This is to close out the TIF district with the county. **Motion to approve Resolution 2024-04: Decertifying TIF \$917 Wildernest Housing by Olson, seconded by Denny, and MCU.**

#### **OTHER/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next meeting is March 19, 2024, at 5:30 PM at Bigfork City Hall

Bryan met with Terry Snyder, our districts county commissioner regarding money that each district in Itasca County has been given due to the failure of the Huber project. This money would be granted to cities, townships, and emergency responders for needs that they have. More information on this will be given by Snyder once he receives it.

**Motion to adjourn at 6:09 p.m. by Olson, seconded by Denny and MCU.**

Melissa J. Grover

*City Clerk/Treasurer*

Approved at the regular meeting held on  
March 19, 2024

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Mayor