

City of Bigfork
Regular City Council Meeting
July 9, 2020
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bryan Boone, David Mann, Drew Francisco, and Ben Maxa

Members Absent: Paul Gustafson

Also Present: Warren Welch, Kristen Haberkorn, Amanda Clark, Thor Johnson, Amanda Noble, Wayne & Cindy Aultman and Gene Rajala

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Public Forum was opened. As no one wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

Employee Performance Reviews were removed from the agenda and the Planning Commission Recommendation regarding the weed ordinance was moved to just after the consent agenda.

Motion by Francisco to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mann, motion carried unanimously (MCU).

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

- 1. minutes of the June 11, 2020 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for June 2020,***
- 3. financial report for June 2020,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for June 2020,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for June 12 and 26 regular payrolls in the amount of \$8,084.34***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$5,939.88 and claims for payment in the amount of \$63,479.88***
- 7. Resolution 2020-11 IRRRB Grant Application Authorization (blanket)***
- 8. Resolution 2020-12 Appointing Election Judges***

Planning Commission Recommendation – Weed Ordinance Amendment: A recommendation was received from the Planning Commission regarding the maximum height of grass/weeds. The current ordinance defines anything over 12 inches in height as a nuisance. The recommendation was to have that apply only to developed lots. The Council was not in favor of making this change. It was felt that issues of fire danger, bug control and the general appearance of the City need to be provided for. No action was taken on the recommendation and the ordinance regulations stand as they were.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Engineering Update: Tabled due to Engineer not being present.

Ordinance #193 amending Title IX: As discussed at the June meeting, these ordinance amendments are being proposed to allow the use of administrative fines to help control the current problem of dogs-at-large. The amendments also lay out a process by which the public can report violations. *Motion by Boone to adopt Ordinance #193, seconded by Francisco, MCU.*

NEW BUSINESS

Covid-19 Preparedness Plan: The City was required to adopt a Covid-19 preparedness plan by June 29, 2020. Mayor Boone approved the plan using his power under the declared local state of emergency. *Motion by Mann to ratify Mayor Boone's approval of the plan, seconded by Maxa, MCU.*

Leave of Absence Request: A leave of absence request was received from the Public Works Lead employee. Mayor Boone approved the leave using his power under the declared local state of emergency. *Motion by Mann to ratify Mayor Boone's approval of the leave request, seconded by Maxa, MCU.*

Motion by Maxa to temporarily increase the Public Works Worker's wage to the Lead wage until such time as Zimmer returns, seconded by Mann, MCU.

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF): The City is eligible to receive federal funds for coronavirus relief that may be used for certain employment and other pandemic-related costs including assistance to affected small businesses in the City. The Clerk provided a sample assistance program from another City whereby any small business that had to close it's doors due to the stay-at-home order, or could prove a decrease in revenue or profit in the first 6 months of 2020 as compared to the first six months of 2019 would be eligible for a \$500 credit on their water/sewer bill.

Motion by Mann to create a Covid-19 Small Business Relief Fund as outlined in discussion, seconded by Francisco, MCU.

Junior Council Member Program: No applications were received from the spring advertising. Boone suggested monitoring the situation with school structure in the Fall before making a decision on the program. Mann expressed concern over offering scholarships while the City is taking on debt. Boone noted that scholarship money comes out of a designated fund that could not be used for purposes such as the debt was issued for recently.

OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Budget Committee Meeting Schedule: Paul Gustafson will serve on the Budget Committee in Zimmer's place. The Clerk will coordinate dates and times for meetings which will be posted.

Candidate Filing Period for Mayor and Council Seats: Seats up in the 2020 election are the Mayor and the Council seats currently held by Paul Gustafson and Ben Maxa. Filing dates are July

28 through August 11, 2020. Anyone wishing to be on the ballot must file at the City Clerk's office during that time.

Motion to approve a vacation request from Storlie for August 3-7 by Mann, seconded by Francisco, MCU.

The Council answered a question from Thor Johnson on the reasoning behind building a softball field. A discussion followed regarding the potential amount of use another field in the Edge of the Wilderness area would have, if there was a better use for the City property, and if there was a potential for a collaboration between the City and Bigfork School considering there is already a field on school property. The Clerk was asked to reach out to Bigfork School for input.

Boone reported that Caden Kallinen, one of the young men involved in the recent vandalism in the City, had met with him to apologize for his actions and offer to volunteer for the City.

Motion to adjourn by Mann at 6:43 p.m., seconded by Maxa, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer