

City of Bigfork
Regular City Council Meeting
October 11, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Bryan Boone, David Mann, Ben Maxa, Paul Gustafson
Members Absent: Andrew Francisco
Also Present: Caleb Strandlie, John Dimich, Joe Zimmer, 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, and the Public Forum was opened.

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

Letter to Constituent Addressing Disruptions in the Workplace added to the agenda. Motion by Mann to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Maxa, motion carried unanimously (MCU).

Consent Agenda: Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson and MCU to approve the consent agenda including:

1. Minutes of the September 20, 2022, Regular City Council meeting
2. City Clerk's office report for September 2022,
3. Financial report for September 2022,
4. Public Works Department Report for September 2022
5. Payroll and timecards for September 30, 2022, regular payrolls, in the amount of \$4,992.06
6. Claims paid in July in the amount of \$3,068.10 and claims for payment in the amount of \$24,430.75

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Microsoft Teams Meeting w/ WiDseth: Golf Course Lane Sanitary Sewer Project: Caleb met via Microsoft Teams to update the Council on the Golf Course Lane Sanitary Sewer Project. He said that the project has been rushed due to wanting to complete the project before the ground freezes. Right now, they are getting quotes on the project. One quote was received by Utility Systems of America, and they stated that they were unable to complete the project in the time frame we need the project completed by. Once a second quote is presented the city can move forward on the project. Joe asked if we could turn in the quote stating that the company cannot complete the project. Caleb stated that WiDseth would like to try and obtain a second quote to ensure that IRRRB does not withdraw their funding from the project. Lee from WiDseth also

stated that once bids are received a special meeting will have to take place to approve of a quote. He said to wait until Monday being the soonest to hold this special meeting. He also stated that would give WiDseth time to get more quotes on the project. Boone requested to plan to have a special meeting on Monday over lunch hour so that Council member Francisco can be present.

Blandin Foundation Community Development Grant: City Clerk Melissa stated that she has still not heard anything back regarding the fishing pier. She has reached out to Kacie at the DNRs office by calling and emailing. Until we get a response Melissa will continue to try and touch base with her regarding the project. Joe Zimmer also stated that due to the Sanity Sewer Lift Station Project taking precedence he has not yet asked WiDseth to come and look at the trestle bridge.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance NO. 198 Amending Zoning Map: The following described property: Parcel 85-027-3401, 102 Main Ave, Bigfork MN 56628, has been requested by the property owner to rezone the portion of their property that used to be the thrift store and is being converted to an apartment. Following the City Council's discussion regarding the property at the September 20, 2022, Regular Council meeting they have approved the rezoning from Commercial/ General GB to Multi Family Residential (R-2).

Motion to approve Ordinance NO. 198 Amending the Zoning Map by Mann, seconded by Maxa, and MCU.

Ordinance NO. 199 Amending Zoning Map: As representatives of the Planning Commission Bryan Boone and Joe Zimmer explained that in an open email correspondence with the Planning Commission it was requested by a new property owner for Parcel 85-028-1100, 401 N Division Ave, Bigfork, MN 56628, that the property be rezoned back to Agriculture. The Hospital District bought the property, and it was zoned as Medical, and no property taxes were paid on the property as it was tax exempt. Now that the property has been purchased the new property owner is planning to remodel the home and use the fields for horses. It has been recommended by the Planning Commission to rezone the property and get it back on the Property Tax Roll.

Motion to approve Ordinance NO. 199 Amending the Zoning Map by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, MCU.

Part Time Public Works Position: Joe Zimmer contacted Dan Manick the City's Local 49 Union Representative and discussed with him how the city can go about making sure we are not in breach of the union contract by keeping our seasonal public works employee on for a longer season this year. Dan stated that to extend the number of days that are worked by the season part time employee the job description needs to be updated to say that the position is a permanent part time position versus seasonal. By doing so it will not limit the employee to being able to work for 67 days a year. Changing the position to Permanent Part-time will also not affect the benefits that are paid out regarding adding benefits. The Council asked Melissa to update the job description for review at the November City Council meeting.

Skating Rink: Bryan stated that he is unable to continue maintaining the skating rink as he does not have the time available. He mentioned that last year the council approved paying an individual \$10.00 an hour to clear the snow if needed and introduced the idea of paying an individual the same amount per hour to also flood the rink. Council member Gustafson spoke with Jeremiah the fire chief to see if the fire department could flood it. Jeremiah said that he would mention it to the fire department members and see if he had any volunteers to flood the rink. Council will wait until the next meeting to see if there are any interested parties and decide from there how to proceed. Payment to an individual to flood and clear the snow will be dispersed from the Gambling Tax Fund.

OTHER/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

November Meeting Date: Set for November 9th, 2022, at 5:30 PM.

Session was closed for a closed personnel session at 6:14 PM.

Meeting was Opened Back up to the public at 6:31 PM.

Letter to Constituent Addressing Disruptions in the Workplace: After the closed session it was decided by the council to adopt a new policy regarding disruptive behavior by constituents in the workplace. The council has asked Melissa to review the policies that have been created with the League of MN Cities to create one that would work for Bigfork. Once a policy has been written it can be added to the November 9, 2022, Regular Council Agenda for review.

Bryan Boone has also written a letter addressed to a constituent that he requested be reviewed by the Council. After reviewing the letter, it was determined that more revisions need to be made and reviewed by City Attorney John Dimich. Dimich suggested that the council take time to revise the letter and add it to the agenda for the next City Council meeting on November 9, 2022, to be reviewed then. Boone decided to rewrite the letter with the help of council member Mann.

Motion to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. by Gustafson, seconded by Maxa, and MCU.

Melissa J. Grover

City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
November 9, 2022

Mayor