

Pipestone, Minnesota
March 21, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Pipestone City Council was duly held in the Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m. on the 21st day of March 2016. Mayor Ness called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared. Members present: Laurie Ness, Myron Koets, Jim Stout, Rodger Smidt and Kyle Caskey. Absent: None. Others present: Brian Douty, Ehlers & Associates Representative Rebecca Kurtz, Deb Fitzgerald, City Engineer Travis Winter, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, City Administrator/City Attorney Jeff Jones and City Clerk Deb Nelson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA – ADDITIONS, CHANGES OR DELETIONS

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones requested the agenda be amended to include under Presentation Item B – Brian Douty Regarding the National Guard Armory; under New Business Item B – Add Resolution 2016-16; and under New Business, Item E – Resolution 2016-17.

Motion was made by Koets, seconded by Stout and unanimously carried to amend the agenda to include under Presentation Item B – Brian Douty Regarding the National Guard Armory; under New Business Item B – Add Resolution 2016-16; and under New Business, Item E – Resolution 2016-17.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ness stated the Consent Agenda contains the March 7, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes; Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills; February 2016 Financial Reports; and Informational Reports and asked if there was any discussion regarding these items.

Motion was made by Stout, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following items: March 7, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes; Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$303,385.12 for warrants #050408 to #050517 to be issued in payment thereof; February 2016 Financial Reports; and Informational Reports.

PRESENTATION

Rebecca Kurtz – Ehlers & Associates

Rebecca Kurtz stated a draft of the Financial Management Plan for the city was included in their packets and went over several items contained in the Plan.

Included in the Plan is the 2015 debt information along with the planned future debt information; bonding for the Highway 30 project; refunding opportunities the city has; and that the overall tax rate shows a declining tax rate. This is due in large part because of the debt for the aquatic

facility has been paid off, and the street and storm water debt in 2015 and proposed future debt is less than the aquatic facility's debt. The Plan does not incorporate any significant projects and expenditures after the Highway 30 project.

She shared that the City is anticipating bonding for an additional \$450,000 costs for the Highway 30 project along with \$225,000 for other street improvement projects for a total bond of \$715,000. She said they would be able to receive bids for the bond in early May, calling for the sale of the bonds in later May and selling them in June at which time, funds would be available.

Discussion then followed regarding refunding opportunities for several bonds.

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones informed the Council that if additional street work on 7th Avenue and 11th Street were added to the Highway 30 project bond, the City could see some cost savings.

Mayor Ness questioned if the Highway 30 bond included the rest of the 5th Avenue hospital project with Rebecca stating that it was not included.

Council discussed scheduling a Work Session with Rebecca to look at doing some additional updates to the Plan.

Brian Douty

Brian Douty explained that he was appearing as a concerned citizen and not on behalf of the Pipestone National Guard Armory. He stated that Colonel Larry Herke is willing to meet with the City and County to discuss closure of the Armory.

He stated that congress had enacted a reduction in the footprint of buildings in approximately 15 cities. They are looking at combining the Pipestone and Luverne armories but stated it wouldn't happen for approximately 10-15 years. The reason for this reduction in the footprint of buildings is due to aging facilities and anti-terrorism.

Councilmember Smidt asked what will be done with the current facility with Brian stating it will go up for sale with the City getting first option to purchase.

It was the consensus of the Council to write a joint letter with Pipestone County stating concerns with closing the facility and keeping the facility in our area.

BID OPENING

Hiawatha Lodge Alcohol and Beverage Dispenser Bids

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones informed the Council that no bids were received for serving alcohol at the Hiawatha Lodge.

Councilmember Koets inquired if the City could use one of its on-sale liquor licenses.

City Clerk Nelson stated she would check with the state to see if the City could use one of the on-sale liquor licenses.

Motion was made by Koets, seconded by Caskey and unanimously carried to schedule a special meeting for Monday, March 28th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the City using one of the on-sale liquor licenses to serve alcohol at the Hiawatha Lodge.

NEW BUSINESS

Credit Card Payment for City Fees and Utilities

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated the City routinely receives requests to take payments by credit card. He has received a quote to purchase a credit card machine for \$649.00. Payments could be made over the phone or be made in person. There is a retail surcharge to the City of 2.25% for each credit card payment.

Councilmember Caskey shared that one of the features of the new website is for individuals to be able to log into the website and register and pay for programming at the Rec Center and to pay utility bills online. He suggested tabling this item until City Treasurer Lenae Scholten can attend the meeting and explain costs and fees associated with this feature.

Motion was made by Koets, seconded by Caskey and unanimously carried to table this issue until the April 4th meeting.

Resolution 2016-16

A donation has been received from the Pipestone Area Community Foundation and Southwest Initiative Foundation to support the Pipestone Forward Project. This resolution accepts that donation.

Motion was made by Stout, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2016-16: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATION.

Consider Approval of Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License to Janu-7, LLC

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones explained that Janu-7, LLC has purchased Erickson Oil Products d/b/a Freedom Valu Center. The Freedom Valu Center name and resident manager will stay the same. Because of this corporation change, a new Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License is required.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Koets and unanimously carried to approve the Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License to Janu-7, LLC d/b/a Freedom Valu Center.

Soccer Fields – Location and Financial Support

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones informed the Council that a request has been received to use the parking lot area of Hiawatha Pageant Park as a soccer field. The group is also asking for

financial support in the amount of \$720 to purchase regulation soccer nets. He said that Community Education/Active Living could purchase the soccer nets.

Mayor Ness asked if someone has rented the Lodge or grounds, would soccer be allowed during that event. She stated that soccer wouldn't be allowed during the Civil War Festival as they use the entire park for that event.

Because there were many unanswered questions, it was the consensus of the Council to table this issue until the April 4th meeting to allow a representative to attend to answer questions.

Motion was made by Caskey, seconded by Stout and unanimously carried to table this item until the April 4th Council meeting to invite a representative to attend the meeting to answer questions.

Resolution 2016-17

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones explained that the City is applying for funding to the Department of Natural Resources for Local Trail Connections Program to construct approximately two miles of paved trail to bring the Indian Lakes Trail into the City. Part of the application process is for the City to approve a resolution supporting the application, approving the City's 25% non-state cash match and assuring the trail will be maintained for a period of no less than 20 years.

Motion was made by Koets, seconded by Stout and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2016-17: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE LOCAL TRAIL CONNECTIONS PROGRAM FOR THE INDIAN LAKES TRAIL AND, IF THE PROJECT IS AWARDED, COMMITMENT THAT THE TRAIL WILL BE IN PLACE AND MAINTAINED FOR NO LESS THAN TWENTY YEARS.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Hiawatha Pageant Park Committee Liaison Koets reported they are wrapping up a few things for completion of the Lodge and they are looking into a pumping system for a waterfall at the Park.

Park & Recreation Commission Liaison Koets reported the Rec Center is ready for summer activities and enrollments have started.

Heritage Preservation Commission Liaison Smidt reported that the Commission is working with Monk's Secondhand Store for work they would like to do on the exterior of the building; they are working with Bud Johnston on work the Keepers would like to do on their building as well; and there are vacancies on this Commission. If anyone is interested, please contact City Hall.

Economic Development Authority Boardmember Caskey reported the EDA is researching sidewalks at Southwest Acres.

CLOSING COMMENTS

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones shared a summary of blight efforts to date.

Jones informed the Council that trees are going to be removed in the MnDOT right-of-way south of Harmon Park in preparation for the Highway 30 project. He said the City will replant trees outside the MnDOT right-of-way.

Jones stated that there was an article in the League of Minnesota Cities Bulletin that outlined a summary budget showing LGA funding at \$21.5 million which is an increase of 4%.

Jones also shared that Receptionist Kasi Pantekoek is training on the website so the rollout of the website will need to be pushed back until April.

Councilmember Koets shared that the City of Eagan has a traveling Pickle Ball League and he felt it would be worth checking into starting one.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Stout, seconded by Caskey and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Laurie K Ness
Mayor

ATTEST:

Deb Nelson
City Clerk