

Pipestone, Minnesota
February 1, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Pipestone City Council was duly held via Zoom in the Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m. on the 1st day of February 2021. Mayor Myron Koets called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared. Members present: Myron Koets, Jim Stout, Rodger Smidt, Dan Delaney and Justin Schroyer. Absent: None. Others present: Kyle Kuphal, HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp Representative Ashely Shiwarski, City Engineer Travis Winter, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, City Administrator/City Attorney Jeff Jones and City Clerk Deb Nelson.

APPROVE AGENDA – ADDITIONS, CHANGES OR DELETIONS

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated he would like to remove Item A under Executive Session from the agenda as he is waiting for additional information.

Motion was made by Smidt and seconded by Stout to approve the agenda as amended by removing Item A under Executive Session from the agenda. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Koets stated the Consent Agenda contains the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills and asked if there was any discussion regarding these items.

Motion was made by Delaney and seconded by Smidt to approve the Consent Agenda which consists of the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$450,338.63 for warrants #063444 to \$063536 to be issued in payment thereof. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

None.

PRESENTATION

Ashley Shiwarski – HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp

Ashley Shiwarski, Director of Business Development for HomeServe, then presented information regarding the benefits to cities and residents regarding the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program. Ms. Shiwarski stated aging infrastructure is an ongoing concern for cities and homeowners. Failed lines waste thousands of gallons of water and present an environmental hazard and many homeowners are unprepared for home repair emergencies. The common homeowner misconception is that the city is responsible for maintenance of the water and sewer lines on their property and repairs are covered by their homeowner's policy.

The National League of Cities Service Line Warranty program is the only service line program endorsed by the National League of Cities and members of the League of Minnesota Cities Business Leadership Council. There is no cost for the city to participate and can be an ongoing revenue stream for the city. There are two types of coverage; Water/well line coverage and sewer/septic lateral coverage. Ms. Shiwarski then outlined each coverage. The program is a completely optional program for homeowners and all

correspondence, marketing and enrolling is done by HomeServe. There are over 22,000 Minnesota residents currently enrolled in the program and over 2,800 service line repair jobs have been completed in the last three years, which saved Minnesota homeowners over \$2.3 million dollars.

ENGINEERING

Consider Contract to Televis Sewer Main and Services on 2nd Street SE

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated Bolton & Menk has submitted two proposals for televising the sanitary sewer main and services on the 2nd Street SE corridor associated with the city's planned project for this year. On past projects, the burden of televising was placed on the contractor as part of the construction cost. It was a pay item to televise services so it could be identified where they ran and observe any issues relating to I & I. The goal was to correct I & I problems found on private property as part of the project. The issue with this approach is it doesn't give the city engineer much time to work with the property owners to come to an agreement on how to fix the issue. Most property owners wanted more time to see if they could get the work completed cheaper on their own outside of the project. By having the televising done during the design phase of the project, it will help to make property owners more comfortable with the work that needs to be done on their property and reduce the scramble during construction. The Hydro Klean proposal is the lower cost option in the amount of \$9,380.00. Bolton & Menk is recommending council accept the proposal.

Motion was made by Smidt and seconded by Delaney to approve the proposal from Hydro Klean in the amount of \$9,380.00 to televise the sanitary sewer main and services for the 2nd Street SE project. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-12

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated this resolution is approved annually and approves the Mayor and City Council members be covered by the Minnesota Worker's Compensation law.

Motion was made by Stout and seconded by Schroyer to approve Resolution 2021-12: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF PIPESTONE BE COVERED BY THE MINNESOTA WORKER'S COMPENSATION LAW. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

Consider Membership with the Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail Association

City Clerk Nelson explained the Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail Association has submitted a request to the City to consider becoming a member of the Friends group. The Friends have restructured their membership renewal tier for 2021 to give individuals, contributors and business/sponsors options for different levels of membership. The Friends is a non-profit group that advocates for the development of the Casey Jones State Trail and maintenance of the existing trail owned by the State of MN and managed by DNR.

Councilmember Delaney asked if the city can legally make a donation to the Friends group with Jones responding that the trail is a revenue generator for local businesses so it is a legitimate expense for the city.

Motion was made by Delaney and seconded by and seconded by Stout to approve a donation in the amount of \$250.00 at the Business/Sponsor tier to the Friends of the Casey Jones State Trail Association. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Naves: none, motion carried 5-0.

Change Meeting Date of February 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in Observance of the President's Day Holiday

Council will need to change the regular meeting date of February 15, 2021 to February 16, 2021 in observance of the President's Day holiday.

Motion was made by Delaney and seconded by Stout to change the regular meeting date of February 15, 2021 to February 16, 2021 in observance of the President's Day holiday. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Naves: none, motion carried 5-0.

Consider Approval of 2021 Mayoral Appointments and Committees

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated the council will need to approve the Mayoral appointments to the Appointments and Committees list for 2021. The following revisions will need to be made to the list for the February 16th meeting:

- Library Board – Sharon Wolff is no longer on the Board and Randy Erdman has replaced Amy Nelson.
- Park and Recreation Commission – Three new members have to be added to the list.

Motion was made by Delaney and seconded by Smidt to approve the 2021 Mayoral Appointments and Committees as presented. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Naves: none, motion carried 5-0.

Consider Request from Jess Post

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones informed the council that Jesse Post is interested in purchasing a tax-forfeited property which has an assessment of \$22,159.00 against it. This assessment is for cleanup costs incurred by the City pursuant to court order obtained by the city to clean up the property. Mr. Post is requesting that the council consider waiving the assessment so he can purchase the property.

Discussion then followed regarding the possibility of negotiating the abatement and what is the land going to be used for.

Motion was made by Koets and seconded by Schroyer to table this issue until the February 16th meeting to allow staff time to gather more information. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Naves: none, motion carried 5-0.

Consider Approving HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp Marking Agreement

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated earlier in the meeting, Ashley Shiwarski gave a presentation on the benefits to cities and residents regarding the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program. It is recommended that the City Council authorize City Administrator Jeff Jones to enter into the royalty Marketing Agreement with HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp. for an initial term of three (3) years, subject to City Attorney review with an additional one (1) year renewal. There is no financial impact to the city to participate and the city will receive 10% of payments received annually.

Motion was made by Stout and seconded by Delaney to approve the HomeServe USA Repair Management Corp Marketing Agreement. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

CLOSING COMMENTS

City Administrator/City Attorney Jones stated he had attended the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities virtual Legislative Day sharing the 2021 legislative priorities of the Coalition which included LGA, COVID-19 efforts and the Child Care shortage.

Councilmember Smidt informed the council that an individual had approached him asking if the council would consider delaying current and future assessment payments.

Mayor Koets shared the news of the passing of former councilmember Todd Morgan.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Smidt and seconded by Schroyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Upon roll call vote; Ayes: Koets, Stout, Smidt, Delaney, Schroyer; Nays: none, motion carried 5-0.

Myron D. Koets
Mayor

ATTEST:

Deb Nelson
City Clerk