

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 P.M.

February 18, 2014

Present: Joanne Johnson
David Gustafson
Carlene Perfetto
Dustin Goutermont

Steven Marolt – excused

Lana Fralich, City Administrator
Pete Morris, City Attorney
Chief Mitch Dow, J T Starkovich, Police Dept.
Steve VanHouse, Charles Rathbone, Ken Smith, Planning / Zoning Commission
Ken Vogel, Lake County News Chronicle

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Agenda – Snowplowing and School Zone Speed Limits were added to communications. Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve the agenda as amended.
MOTION CARRIED.

Consent Agenda – Motion by Gustafson, second Goutermont to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2014 Council meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

Petitions, Requests and Communications

Lake County Board of Equalization Meeting – It was noted that the County Auditor's Office will hold the board of equalization meeting at the Mary MacDonald Center on April 17 from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m. Property owners can discuss or appeal their property valuations at this time.

Thank You Letter to Police Dept. – The Council reviewed a letter from a City resident thanking the Police Dept. for their assistance on a recent issue.

Healthy Eating, Active Living Network – Mayor Johnson reviewed her meeting with the County SHIP coordinator. There was discussion about past SHIP activities in the City, the bike rodeo, the designation as a Fit City, and the costs of maintaining programs. There was a consensus for the Mayor to represent the City in meetings regarding this issue. This issue was tabled for further research.

Snowplowing – The Street Supt. is reporting that because of the large amount of snowfall this winter, the boulevards are full and the places where they transport the snow are full, and so the City will be pushing the snow into the sidewalk area, and the sidewalks will not be plowed for the remainder of the winter.

School Zone Speed Limits – There was discussion about the possibility of lowering the speed limits around the school, State speed limit regulations, and parking on Banks Blvd. This issue was forwarded to the Safety Committee.

City Administrator

MN Dept. of Health Water Fluorination Quality Award – The Council reviewed a quality award given to the water dept. for maintaining optimal fluorination levels in 2012, and thanked the employees of the water dept. for their good work.

MRWA Technical Conference Training – The PUC recommends sending Mike Miller and Larry Carter to this training, and noted that this training allows them to receive water and wastewater credits for their licensure. Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve for Mike Miller and Larry Carter to attend the MRWA Conference in St. Cloud on March 4-6 for \$200 per person, hotel room of \$86.54 plus tax per night per person, and regular meals and mileage. MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 2014-11 – The Council reviewed the grant agreement for the water dept. booster station, emergency power backup, high pressure water main under Highway 61, and fiber optic line between the water and wastewater plant projects. It was noted that the grant agreement is for \$150,000, and that it is unknown if there will be State bonding funds for these projects. The PUC recommends approval of this grant agreement, that the high pressure water main project would be the first priority, and that the other projects would be done when other funding sources become available. Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to adopt Resolution 2014-11 authorizing the City to enter into a grant agreement with the State of Minnesota through the Iron Range Resources Office of the Commissioner for the \$150,000 Public Works Grant for Public Utilities upgrade project.

Member Perfetto – aye

Member Goutermont – aye

Member Gustafson – aye

Mayor Johnson – aye

Member Marolt – absent

RESOLUTION 2014-11 WAS ADOPTED. 4 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent

Kerry Danielson Retirement – The Council thanked Danielson for his nearly 20 years of employment at the Liquor Store. There was discussion about moving forward with the hiring process. Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to accept the retirement of Kerry Danielson, effective on February 19, and to set a special meeting for Monday, February 24 at 5:00p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Keeping America Beautiful Application – The Council reviewed this program to receive free recycling bins for the City, and there was discussion about the benefits and possible cost of this program. Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve to submit an application to the Keeping America Beautiful program. MOTION CARRIED.

City Attorney – No other business was presented by the attorney.

OLD BUSINESS

Day at the Capitol – The Council reviewed the brochure for this event.

NEW BUSINESS

Special Use Permit – The Council reviewed a special use permit from Steve VanHouse for the property on Outer Drive, Outlot C, 4th Division, a map of the property with the proposed development, and the minutes of the February 12 Planning and Zoning Commission public hearing and meeting, and noted that the Commission recommends approval of this permit. Mayor Johnson stated the need for storage units in the City, and expressed her concerns that this is not a good spot for this type of business. Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve a special use permit for Steve VanHouse for self service storage units on the property on Outer Drive, Outlot C, 4th Division. Perfetto, Goutermont and Gustafson voted aye, Johnson voted nay. MOTION CARRIED.

Part Time Patrolman – The Council reviewed staffing needs for the Police Dept. Motion by Perfetto, second Gustafson to advertise for positions of part time patrolman, and to authorize to move forward with the hiring process. MOTION CARRIED.

Claims – Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve payment of \$59,280.70 paid claims and \$198,280.97 in unpaid claims. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lance K Beachem

Joanne Johnson, Mayor

Lana Fralich, City Administrator