

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – AUGUST 2, 2017

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on August 2, 2017 in the city council room of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Van Lith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those present were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Cathy Ruschmeier, and Nick Hartwig absent. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth, Sheila Krohse and Josh Eckstein with Bolton & Menk. Audience members present were: Julie Aarsvold.

B. CITIZEN COMMENT: There were no additional comments from the audience.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jaeger moved and Turnquist second approval of Agenda. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jaeger moved and Turnquist seconded approval of the July 18, 2017 minutes. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: Sheriff will be patrolling St Mark's parking lot in late pm or early am.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: No meeting until August 7. All working hard to set up for the Tournament; 20 teams entered.

G. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$1,376,783.75, which includes the CD's balance of \$48,223.67. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier second approving the Treasure report. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Will move the claims down to give all Council members time to review.

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: Mike Barthel with People Service was present to discuss the quarterly report and flows; Mike went through the report and answered Council's questions. Council Discussed ponds, phosphorus levels and discharges. Van Lith stated further investigation is still needed in alley. Sheila Krohse noted something appears to be going on as the flows are increasing over the past two years, not decreasing.

J. 1. Shawn Jacques was not present.

2. Sheila Krohse and Josh Eckstein with Bolton & Menk were present to discuss the Engineering services they provide the City of New Germany and answer any questions Council may have at this time. Mayor Van Lith explained that the City is exploring different Engineering options and price comparison as well. Mayor Van Lith noted the City would like more of a break down or explanation with the statements or billing. Sheila gave an overview of how long Bolton & Menk has been with the City and how important the City is with them and if the Council would like them to attend and supply quarterly reports they are more than willing to abide; Krohse understands the tight budget of small cities and would not charge for this service. Krohse also noted that Josh Eckstein is nearby in Lester Prairie and is always available if needed. Krohse gave an overview of the Sewer Pond permit and the new phosphorus levels the MPCA has put on the ponds. Council and Krohse continued discussions on ponds and discharging and lift station flows.

Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving the claims in the amount of \$16,200.28. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: nothing at this time.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: no complaints filed.

M. PW REPORT: Mayor Van Lith reported on the tree at the east end of Boulevard; tree is \$100 and replacing is \$500, same size tree, and replace in fall. Funds could be taken from the Park's Capital Fund. Ruschmeier moved and Turnquist seconded approving the \$600 to replace the tree. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

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Van Lith changed oil at 20 hours in new lawn mower as recommended by Bob's Repair; next change will be at 100 hours.

Battery was dead in bobcat and generator; Van Lith replaced both.

Will be installing speed limit sign to entry of Lindstrom Park tomorrow or Friday; locates have been completed; replaced three stop signs in the city.

Waconia was here on 8/1/17 and jet vac the storm drains.

N. Parks Report: Van Lith informed Council of the hours and work that Eric Roepke has performed for the Parks; Eric really does go over and above and suggests recognition for his work. Council is grateful to have Eric in the Parks Department and appreciates everything he does; fields look amazing.

Turnquist gave an update on the Message board sign; met with County, locates completed, permit is back and ready to go. They will look into a date after the Tournament for installation; order parts for sign. Turnquist and Van Lith noted a material list is needed and an estimated cost of materials has been requested by Fire Department. Parks Capital fund will be used to pay for the parts and then reimbursed by Commercial Club and Fire Department. Turnquist noted that Eric Roepke and he discussed on upsizing the conduit for future use.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Nothing more to report.

P. CLERKS REPORT: Light fixture is having issues on landing by Legion room/Ambulance lounge room. Replaced bulbs, light fixtures are old and obsolete (T-12); Eric suggests replacing to T-8 fixture. Council had no issues with replacing the light and to think about budgeting for other light fixture updates.

Fire Department bill for the vandalism at St Mark's Fellowship center from fall of 2016 will be reimbursed. The individual has agreed to a payment plan starting August 17 and payments will be every two weeks until bill is paid in full; when paid in full the individual has requested a letter from the City stating that no criminal charges will be pursued and payment has been fulfilled.

Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1. No updates - keep on the agenda.

2. City with employees of 50 or less can now go back to the old way of Healthcare Reimbursement account like the City use to. This would not change anything in the budget as it is accounted for in Clerk wages; set up new line item and deduct from budgeted wage number. The Healthcare account fund does save the City money, as the current way is converted into wages the City pays on that portion at 7.50% to PERA, as it is all calculated as wages. Clerk's current wages are \$24.49, \$22.64 is actual wages and \$1.85 is the healthcare portion. Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approving the Healthcare Reimbursement account and discontinuing wage conversion. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

R. NEW BUSINESS: Council discussed Budget dates; August 22 and if needed the 29th will be Budget meeting dates. Mayor Van Lith moved and Turnquist seconded approving the Budget date of August 22 and the 29th. The motion carried all aye. 4/0

S. ADJOURNMENT: Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:23 PM. The motion carried, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk