

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – JUNE 5, 2018

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council and Public Hearing for Ordinance 100B meeting was held June 5, 2018 in the city council room of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Van Lith called the Public Hearing and Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those present were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Cathy Ruschmeier, Nick Hartwig, absent were: Ty Turnquist. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members were: Julie Aarsvold.

B. CITIZEN COMMENT: No comments.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving the agenda with the additions of Resolutions 2018-12 and 2018-13. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded approval of the May 15, 2018 minutes. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: Officer Stahlke stopped in office and reported have been quiet.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Ruschmeier was present to give a report on Fire Department equipment.

- Awarded Center Pointe grant for \$2,000, to be used towards turn out gear.
- Fire Department is in need of 2 turn out gear for new members that have completed their training, will need a total of four sets. There are also another four new fire fighters in training and they will be in need of turn out gear once they have completed the requirements. The cost for 2 sets of turn out gear which consist of jacket, pants, gloves, boots, and face mask is \$5,765.16. The budget has \$5,000 available and the \$2,000 grant funds received; Council had discussion. Fire Chief Ruschmeier also noted he has applied for a DNR grant of \$2,000; cannot order the gear prior to the grant is a stipulation. SCBA's is also on the list and Chief Ruschmeier is exploring options of combining with the truck purchase; all in one loan. Hartwig moved and Jaeger seconded approving the Fire Chief to order four turn out gear. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0
- Chief Ruschmeier explained to Council the malfunction of the Auto Pulse machine (recitation unit). Unit was purchased in 2011 and there is a malfunction with the unit; repairs for Auto Pulse are \$3,074.71, this does not include the batteries they are in need replacement, replacement batteries \$4,701.15. Meanwhile they send out a loaner and the rental fee for the loaner is \$500.00; total with loaner and all repairs is \$8,575.86. There are no technical updates, battery life with charger is about three years and the only warranty is on the charger and batteries not the repaired unit. Most departments have switched to the Lucas machine, which is the latest and greatest technology. This unit you can hook up to the laptop and download technology changes and is user friendly. The Fire Department had an informational meeting on this unit and the Fire Department is recommending to purchase the Lucas. The cost of the Lucas is \$11,811.43, this would need to come out of the Fire Department truck and building capital fund; the \$500 additional loaner fee can come out of maintenance budget in the Fire Department budget reported Chief Ruschmeier. Lucas unit has a 1-year unit warranty. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving the recommendation of the New Germany Fire Department to purchase a new Lucas unit in the amount of \$11,811.43. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0
- Softball Tournament – August 3 – 5, 2018; started mowing at Fellowship Center, permits are in place.

G. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$1,252,177.42, which includes the CD's balance of \$48,590.30. Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded approval of the Treasure report. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving claims in the amount of \$26,196.89. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: Clerk reported on the MPCA meeting; giving the city more time to monitor the flows and I/I, will complete the facility plan and then will be phase I and II. Lester Prairie was not opposed to New Germany purchasing phosphorus credits but they are also being hit with lower limits. MPCA

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extending the time line will allow the city more time to meet demands, cost effectiveness, and secure funds.

J. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Mayor Van Lith explained the MN Warn program which was referred by Robyn Hoerr of MN Rural Water when compiling the Wellhead Protection Program. Van Lith had concerns on the mutual aid part of helping other cities when needs arise; checked with Robyn and she assured this is not an issue. MN Warn would be used in a disaster situation and there are many benefits to the program; Van Lith noted it is a good program and he has read through the entire contract. Resolution 2018-11 is a resolution accepting the MN Warn program and to become a member. Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded approving the MN Warn program and Resolution 2018-11. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

2. Met Council annual estimated population forecast is 432 people and 175 households, average household size of 2.469 persons per household as of April 1, 2017. The last estimate was in 2016; 422 population, 165 households and 2.527 persons per household. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving the Met Council estimates for the City of New Germany. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: 1 – fence permit.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: None at this time.

M. PW REPORT:

- Van Lith reported he has been monitoring for any blight issues in the city; lawns have been addressed and he will continue to monitor, is also will continue monitoring an apartment complex that has had recent blight issues.
- Van Lith also has been meeting with seal coat companies for measurements and bids.
- Has requested the tree to be planted several times; will continue to request.
- Message board is in the process of being constructed, sides are in the city shed. Thank you to the volunteers who helped Kevin Horstman, Eric Roepke and Nick Hartwig, great job. Hartwig questioned where the bill of couple hundred dollars for supplies should be sent to; was decided Commercial Club.

N. PARKS REPORT: Jaeger reported the musical event on May 19 was a great success. Ball games happened only one night on account of weather.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Nothing to report at this time.

P. CLERKS REPORT:

- Joe Lemmerman from T-Road was in and reported on survey progress; will have EJ Rudd company send the city an estimated bill for their part of alley.
- T-Road – Chad Smith bike run will be on June 16 and T-Road will be the first stop. Estimated amount of 300-400 bikes will be stopping in the City.
- Gave Council an updated employee information with original start dates and raise history. Suggested employee reviews for all employees not just the Clerk. This will help the Clerk with 2019 budget numbers in the event any would receive a wage increase.
- Ordered checks from a new distributor of government forms; about ½ the price of old distributor.

Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Van Lith closed the Public Hearing for Ordinance 100 B (amending zoning ordinance to remove wholesale in Agriculture district) at 7:48 PM. Clerk explained the process of amending ordinance to date; published summary in paper on May 25, need 10 days to publish and be posted in conspicuous place (bank, post office and city hall), June 5 is 12 days, Council approves and adopts changes on June 5 Council meeting. Publish again in Herald Journal on June 8 and that is effective date of Ordinance 100B. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approving Ordinance 100B amendment of wholesale solar in Agriculture districts is not allowed. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

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3. Alley – previously discussed.

4. Council discussed lighting quote on Water Treatment Plant and decided to table; needed to check out one more issue.

R. NEW BUSINESS: none at this time.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:53 PM. Jaeger then rescinded the motion as Planning Commission resignation and applications were not addressed as on the agenda.

Q2. Resignations from Nick Hartwig and Jessica Heuer. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded accepting the resignation of Nick Hartwig from the Planning Commission. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded accepting the resignation from Jessica Heuer from the Planning Commission. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

2 applicants for the Planning Commission have been received. Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded accepting Lois Jopp to the Planning Commission. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded accepting Kevin Grove to the Planning Commission. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded approving Julie Aarsvold as the secretary to the Planning Commission. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded adjourning the meeting at 7:55 PM. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk-Treasurer