

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – APRIL 5, 2016

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on April 5, 2016 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. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were: Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeier, Mike Ford, Paul Killam, and Linda Beckman with Elite.

B. CITIZEN COMMENT: Paul Killam of 360 State Avenue S was present to discuss the letter he received in regards to Ordinance 91. Paul informed Council they have cleaned up the vehicles, licensed all vehicles, all are in working condition; one vehicle does have a tarp on at this time do to a water leak. They are going to continue working on the debris in the car port area; Paul informed Council they have ordered rock for driveway through Pine Products. They will continue working on as the weather gets warmer, Mayor Van Lith thanked Paul and encouraged to continue with clean up.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jaeger moved and Turnquist seconded approval of Agenda. The motion carried.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier seconded approval of the March 15, 2016 minutes. The motion carried.

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: Officer Stahlke delivered three Blight letters to residents.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Ruschmeier explained Clayton Quaas has completed the necessary steps to become a fire fighter for New Germany. It is Chief Ruschmeier recommendation to the City to accept Clayton Quaas to the Fire Department. Cathy Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger seconded to accept Clayton Quaas to the New Germany Fire Department. The motion carried. Fire Chief Ruschmeier informed Council that the FD is forming a 5 person committee to explore the possibilities of an addition to the Fire Garage. The FD would put the pumper truck on hold and look at the possibility of the addition, they are only exploring the options at this time or if it is even an option, just exploring. Chief Ruschmeier wanted to inform the Council and will keep the Council informed as they put things together. Linda with Elite also mentioned if interested in looking for grants/fire trucks she has a few connections and would be happy to share with the City or Chief Ruschmeier.

G. TREASURE REPORT: Will table to J4.

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Will table to J5.

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: Nothing at this time.

J. 1. Linda Beckman with Elite was present to discuss MPCA enforcing MN Statue 473.848. This statue states that all Municipal solid waste in the metro area must be processed and not land filled if processing capacity is available. Linda explained she knows we are in a contract but this was an unforeseen fee that would be hard for Elite to absorb, Elite has to go to all the cities they have contracts with. Linda explained the fee schedule and it would be a 20% increase; 96 gal would be .45 per month, 64 gal .32 per month, .29 per month. Ruschmeier moved and Turnquist second to accept the 20% increase according to the fee schedule provided by Elite. The motion carried.

2. Mayor Van Lith explained Mike Ford's sewer issue; Council viewed video. Bolton and Menk suggested the slip lining method from Northland Lining; cost quote was around \$2,000. Bolton and Menk also talked with Henning's and they would do the "dig up method" and the cost would be around \$2000 as well but did not include restoration of lawn. Council and Ford continued discussing options and methods and both decided they will do some more research and address at the next Council meeting on April 19, Ford mentioned he could do the lawn restoration.

3. Council discussed if they would like an appointee for New Germany to the Carver County Water Management Organization (CCWMO) for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). After discussion it was decided Hartwig would be the appointee if they were quarterly evening meetings. Van Lith moved and Jaeger seconded Nick Hartwig to be the appointee for the CCWMO TAC. The motion carried.

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4. The Treasury report noted that the General Fund balance was \$825,547.16. The bond account was \$1,045.00 and the CD's total \$47,600.67, the total for all accounts were \$874,192.38. Clerk went through two different Treasure reports and quarterly report; Council reviewed. Jaeger moved and Turnquist seconded approval of the Treasure report. The motion carried.

5. Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier seconded to approve the claims in the amount of \$13,571.01. The motion carried.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: Nothing at this time.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Blight complaints, letters were delivered by Sheriff to three residents. All three are complying and trying to correct the issues.

M. PW REPORT: Mayor Van Lith reported he has received phone calls regarding Hilda and 62nd Street; Henning supplied quote for repairs in the amount of \$34,000. Mayor Van Lith informed Council there is also an outstanding bill with Henning's for some repairs at the Lagoons from a few years ago that has not been turned in. Council continued discussion on Hilda and 62nd Street. Clerk will check a few issues out at County and report back.

N. PARKS REPORT: Commercial Club minutes and Treasure report were included. Jaeger reported that Steve Mielke has been attending Commercial Club meetings and reminded Council of the project that needs to be done at the Baseball Park. Project will consist of replacing some beams and building a press box in the grandstand, estimate is around \$8,000. Jaeger stated that between the Commercial Club, Baseball Club, and City we should be able to cost share project. Jaeger also commented that they have discussed lighted event signs, Bruce Johnson advised Commercial Club to wait as these prices will be coming down; small memory tree sign should also be done, there is \$3800 left in the 125th account.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Van Lith is thinking about attending a Mayor's conference in the Twin Cities but there would be a conflict with the Drug Take Back date; Mayor Van Lith will let Council know if attending.

P. CLERKS REPORT: Clerk reported the check has been received from Potentia Solar (MN Solar) and they have turned in all information; everything is with Resource Strategies under review before going to the Planning Commission. Resource Strategies estimate is mid May for scheduling meetings/hearings and then another 4-6 weeks before everything is complete. Clerk is keeping track of all expenses and recording on expense sheet.

Legion has no issues with a longer term with Ambulance service (RMC).

Janitor has requested I bring up to Council that everyone needs to abide by the rules for the hall; which include putting your table and chairs away. Janitor is here to clean floors, toilets and repairs as needed, table and chairs are up to the person renting the hall, chairs and tables were not put away after the Firemen's Dance.

Q. 1. Clerk explained correction in Audit. Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier seconded approval of 2015 Audit with correction. The motion carried.

2. Personnel Committee is still working on PT PW job description, will keep on the agenda.

R. 1. Clerk included three different samples of Website Policies for Council to review. Council will review policies and instructed Clerk to keep on the agenda.

Council review information received in the mail from resident on solar issues.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Jaeger moved and Turnquist seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:36 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk