

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2019

A CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held February 5, 2019 in the city council room of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Van Lith called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those present were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Cathy Ruschmeier(absent) and Nick Hartwig. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members were: Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeier, Dan Perrel.

B. CITIZEN COMMENT- no comments

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approval of agenda. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approving the January 15, 2019 Council minutes as printed. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: Council reviewed 2019 NW Regional Work Plan from Deputy Joe Bengtson.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeier explained to Council they are exploring the option of putting a committee together for future Fire Truck purchase; last payment on current truck is in April of this year. Council and Chief Ruschmeier also discussed the SCBA equipment and the need to be compliant with the State regulations for expired SCBA. SCBA's are ear marked in the FMP of \$136,500 and the Fire Truck is ear marked at \$255,000; all would need to be secured by a loan. Discussion on competitive bidding and the City's purchase policy. Fire Chief Ruschmeier would like to see the government program of HGAC used for the purchase. Fire Chief Ruschmeier noted that his employment with Jerry's Transmission is selling Fire Trucks and he would stay out of the process if it was through Jerry's Transmission. Ruschmeier noted the DNR grant funds will come when turn out gear order is completed (2019). Council agreed to constructing a committee for future Fire Department equipment needs.

Dan Perrel with the New Germany Fire Department is in charge of the medical equipment; Perrel explained to Council they have been purchasing medical supplies for trauma bags. The goal is to have two identical trauma bags for 2 rescue units. They have a few components left to purchase to finish out the duplicate trauma bags. The cost of the needed components is \$202.85; at the department meeting they voted to spend up to \$300 to finish the trauma bags. Perrel continued explaining to Council the current medical practice and how important it is to have duplicate bags for 2 units, it can be a matter of life and death. They can now grab the bag that is specific to the call and saves valuable time in an emergency situation. Van Lith commended Perrel on the training sessions the Fire Fighters have been receiving. Perrel explained in the future they are hoping to purchase a computerized dummy that provides data feedback on the operations performed on the dummy; expensive \$3,000 – 12,000, would be another great training tool for the Fire Fighters.

Perrel the Relief Gambling manager also touched on the new E tab system they are using in addition to the pull tabs. E tabs is a point of sale system that was designed by a man in Vegas; state made over 9 million on these e pads. There was some start up expense but in the first month they have made \$2500. The Relief Association will be contributing \$10,000 to the Fire Dept Truck/Bldg., Capital fund soon. Perrel can track the e tab play from his lap top, gambling is never a guarantee but it has been going well for all; City, Relief, Fire Department.

Discussion on Fire Department calls; last month there were 12 alone. Fire Department wages were up last year and if the trend continues for 2019, we may have to address again. Chief Ruschmeier wanted to make clear that there is a misunderstanding with the medical calls; even though the ambulance is here in New Germany the Fire Department still makes medical calls. The Fire Department is in charge until the ambulance arrives on the scene, even then they may need to stay and direct traffic or some other tasks; 12 calls last month were mostly medical calls. As soon as the County provides the Fire District numbers, they will start working on the 2020 township contracts. Chief Ruschmeier requested a 2020 budget line item for radios.

Council reviewed 2018 Fire Department income and expenditures; budget deficit of \$2634.44, this will be deducted from the Fire Department truck and building fund.

G. TREASURE REPORT:

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2019

- The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$1,282,332.29, which includes the CD's balance of \$49,013.46. Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approval of the Treasury report. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0
- Annual report of outstanding indebtedness was reviewed by Council.

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Jaeger moved and Turnquist seconded approving the claims in the amount of \$23,784.38. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: People Service provided a quarterly report.

J. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Clerk explained some of the key points that Greater MN Digital Services would be implementing to make the City Website ADA compliant, the cost associated with ADA update is \$1,000. Dan Birkholz with Greater MN Digital Services also recommends the City do an annual audit of the Website, the city can stay on top of changing laws and maintain compliance. The fees for the audit are \$79 per hour 3-4-hour time frame, any changes would be additional and they would provide a scope of the project with a price. The other option is to discontinue the Website; Council feels it is an asset to the city.

Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approving the ADA compliant accessibility guideline 2.0 level AA for \$1,000 with Greater MN Digital Services to be performed on the city Website. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

2. Council reviewed the verbiage changes to the Carver County Solid Waste agreement. Turnquist moved and Jaeger seconded approving the Solid waste contract changes. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

3. Turnquist reported that Cathy Ruschmeier is the designated person with himself on the personnel committee. Ruschmeier will be temporarily unavailable for the employee reviews. Turnquist would like someone to assist with the reviews; Jaeger will assist in the reviews. The Clerk's review shall be 6 PM, February 19 with Turnquist and Jaeger, they will schedule the other employee reviews.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: Fireplace or pellet stove permit.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Few residents inquiring on the delayed garbage pickup.

M. PUBLIC WORKS: Van Lith reported the plowing and salting has been going well, will be out plowing again the next few days.

N. PARKS REPORT: Meeting on the January 28th was cancelled on account of weather. May 18 music event of The Six Outlaws has been cancelled.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Van Lith read the letter of support for highway 212 project.

P. CITY CLERK REPORT:

- The city has received the preliminary draft of the codifications of ordinances; 90-day review and we have questions to answer. They also include model ordinances the city may want to adopt.
- Final County settlement was an additional \$4,583.26, County Maintenance appropriation \$10,172.11, refund on Police contract \$185.90.
- 4-H is in the process of supplying their certificate of insurance and have moved there Shooting Sports supplies in last Saturday. Council had discussion on equipment they are using and possible different method for the archery equipment, Ty and Nick will over see the installation.

Q. OLD BUSINESS: None at this time.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 5, 2019

R. NEW BUSINESS: None at this time.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Hartwig moved and Jaeger seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:12 PM. The motion carried, unanimously. 4/0

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk-Treasurer