

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – MARCH 2, 2016

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on March 2, 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 Ty Turnquist, Cathy Ruschmeier, and Nick Hartwig, absent was Shirley Jaeger. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were: George Balch, Rick Ternary.

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: George Balch and Rick Ternary will be added to agenda under items to be discussed as J1, all items remaining will be moved down. Ruschmeier moved and Turnquist second approval of Agenda with addition. The motion carried, all in favor.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ruschmeier moved and Turnquist seconded approval of the February 16, 2016 minutes. The motion carried, all in favor.

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: Officer Stahlke will be on vacation from March 2 -14, 2016. 2015 Amended Year End Sheriff Report was reviewed by Council.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Ruschmeier was not in attendance. Mayor Van Lith informed Council next Fire Department meeting is March 7, 2016.

G. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$819,134.34. The bond account is \$1,045.00 and the CD's total \$47,600.67, the total for all accounts is \$867,780.01. The CD in the amount of \$22,839.07 has a renewal date of April 7, 2016. Mayor Van Lith moved and Turnquist second for Treasure to renew CD at the best rate/term the bank is offering. The motion carried, all in favor.

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Hartwig moved and Turnquist seconded to approve the claims in the amount of \$30,458.70. The motion carried, all in favor.

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: Nothing at this time.

J. 1. George Balch and Rick Ternary (Realtor for Trophy Lakes) were present to discuss water and sewer, and building options at Trophy Lakes. Balch is interested in buying a lot and building a home for himself; Ternary also has interest in building for himself and is the Realtor representing Glenwood State Bank. Ternary is water skier and owns a home in Excelsior and has one in Glenwood which was one of Husted's developments. Ternary is working with Glenwood State Bank trying to come up with a resolution. Balch continued explaining how the lots are not usable at this time on account of no sewer and water. Council explained the situation with the City and money spent to bring the infrastructure to 62<sup>nd</sup> Street and the bonds involved. Balch and Ternary continued explaining that at this time it is difficult to find a developer that can financial come in and put the water and sewer in, they are here to explore the options of private water and sewer. The main question is would the City consider or allow this on the lots at Trophy Lakes. Mayor Van Lith stated this defeats the City's purpose, there would be other issues with the County and Met Council is it not solely up to the City. Hartwigs thoughts were there would be issues with the lot size in having private water and sewer, possible have to be re platted, research would need to be done and County specifications would need to be researched as well. Ruschmeier felt it is something that could be looked at, as this land is private property. Ruschmeier also had concerns along with Council on road conditions for fire safety and who would be paying for the roads. Ruschmeier also explained it was over a million dollar bond to get the infrastructure out there and the residents of this city just went through a property tax increase; a portion of it being the debt on Trophy Lakes. Ruschmeier and Council felt they would explore any options but they also need to keep the best interest of the City in mind. Council and Balch and Ternary continued discussion on roads and HOA. Discussions continued on gravel roads, they could possibly be gravel road but they would need to support a fire truck, not ruts like they are at this time; City is not responsible for roads as it is private property. Mayor Van Lith stated he would have a tough time with private water and sewer. Turnquist stated they are many moving parts as far as the County and Met Council that could tie the City's hands. Hartwig encouraged them to come

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up with a plan and come back with a good plan and the City is more than willing to listen and explore options as long everything is in compliance with the County and has County approval. Trenary stated they will be open minded and feels as a Realtor the economy is getting stronger and houses are moving and it is coming to the west. Hartwig questioned the type of houses they would be building. Trenary told Council that Husted's developments were successful in three other areas; Pine Island, Glenwood, and Center City, all sold out and successful, it was timing here.

2. Resolution 2016-05 Transferring of Funds - \$120,000 into water fund and \$4,146.17 year end budget surplus into the Fire Department Bldg/Fire Truck Capital Fund. Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier approved Resolution 2016-05 Transferring of Funds. The motion carried, all in favor.

3. Clerk Menth had her annual Employee review on February 16, 2016 conducted by Turnquist and Ruschmeier. Ruschmeier informed Council they were pleased with Menth's performance and felt the supervising portion of review was not applicable. Mayor Van Lith stated he is pleased with Menth's performance as well and thanked Menth for the Public Works book she completed. Ruschmeier felt Menth is doing a great job and recommends a minimum of \$1 an hour raise to Council. Ruschmeier moved and Hartwig seconded a \$1 hour raise for the Clerk. The motion carried, all in favor.

4. Clerk explained the SEC issue and would like a plan if the City is contacted. Council had a discussion and decided if the City is contacted; send to Bond council immediately, set up special meeting if needed, if meeting is needed - Ehlers in attendance.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: Fellowship Center – alarm system. Resident applied for bathroom remodel permit.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Nothing to report.

M. PW REPORT: Van Lith reported he was removing brush from the bin and toggle switch broke on bobcat. Henning's finished removing the brush as the grapple did not work without switch, switch has been ordered. Brush is all removed and will need to dismantle chain link when weather cooperates. Get a price from County on a No Brush dumping sign.

N. PARKS REPORT: Easter Bunny March 19 at Hall.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Back door of Hall has been left open a few times. Clerk has e mailed RMC and 4-H club to make sure they are pulling door closed after reentry. Clerk also put a larger sign instructing to pull door shut after re entry; Check if Horstman can adjust the door.

P. CLERKS REPORT: Clerk Menth reported Eric Roepke would like to know if the 2 lights on the front of Hall should be replaced to LED like the side lights; Council would like a quote.

Clerk met with CDA and Lee Hall here in office on 2/25/16. Julie Frick is the new Executive Director for the CDA. Discussed the Park Street lots and the City's needs, Julie also explained affordable housing grants. Julie also explained the CDA has hired Lee Hall who is a business consultant; this is a free service that is provided through the CDA and can be used by any entrepreneur that is exploring the options of opening a new business. Lee assisted in Ruby's Roost in Mayer.

Sent out around 25 letters for Election Judges; received three responses. Head Election judges are paid .50 more than regular Election Judge. I included this on the amended fee schedule. Next month's newsletter will also include Election Judge and Planning Commission information.

Auditor will be attending the March 15 meeting.

2/29/16 was the Well Head Protection meeting here at office, Jaeger, Ortloff and Menth attended with Karen from MN Dept of Health. The Plan start to finish will take about two years, no cost to cities under the population of 500. The next step the hydrologist will come and compile the information he needs and Karen will direct us through the rest of the process, could include mailers. If there are any extra costs for the city on mailers, etc, there are grant funds available if needed.

Drug Take Back program will be April 30, 2016 from 10 AM – 2 PM. Van Lith will open and close the Hall.

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### Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Included in Clerk Report.

2. Council reviewed the solar fees on fee schedule and Head Election judge pay. Turnquist asked that the amended fee schedule have today's date on. Turnquist moved and Hartwig seconded approving the amended fee schedule with date as printed. The motion carried, all in favor.

Effertz resigned from the Planning Commission. Council informed Clerk to send thank you letter for years of service. Turnquist moved and Hartwig seconded accepting David Effertz letter of resignation. The motion carried, all in favor. Clerk may have to attend PC meetings until filled. Hartwig mentioned that Jessica Goenner would also like to resign from PC; will wait for new members before she resigns. Council discussed anyone they thought would be interested and asked Clerk to mail them letters.

### R. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Council reviewed GovPay information and fee schedule. Council decided to send the contract to City attorney and review at next meeting.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Turnquist moved and Hartwig seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:13 PM. The motion carried, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_ Twyla Menth, City Clerk