

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – OCTOBER 4, 2016

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on October 4, 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, Shirley Jaeger, and Cathy Ruschmeier, absent was Nick Hartwig. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were: Kathleen Strehlke, Eric Roepke.

B. CITIZEN COMMENT: Eric Roepke was present to explain to Council what is going on in the softball field; number of low spots in outfield where water has pooled and sat, which has killed the grass. Eric is suggesting that a few loads of dirt be hauled in and distributed in the low spots and reseeded. Eric would like Council's approval for black dirt and man/woman power to assist in spreading dirt. Eric is thinking possible this Sunday if the dirt can get here. Eric will also check with Mark Strehlke on additional help, Steve, Cathy and Ty all volunteered to help. Council gave the verbal for Eric to go ahead and order dirt through Henning Excavating.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier second approval of the agenda. The motion carried, all in favor.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jaeger moved and Ruschmeier second approval of the September 20 Council minutes. The motion carried, all in favor. Turnquist moved and Jaeger second approval of the September 27, 2016 Special Meeting minutes. The motion carried, all in favor.

E. SHERIFFS REPORT: On September 29, 2016 Officer Stahlke reported things have been quite in the City.

F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mayor Van Lith recommended to Council to accept the new fire fighter Justin Hecksel has completed the necessary background check and physical. Turnquist moved and Jaeger second approving the new fire fighter, Justin Hecksel to the New Germany Fire Department. The motion carried, all in favor.

Resolution 2016-12 Approving LG55 Government Approval or Acknowledgement for use of Gambling Funds. Mayor Van Lith explained the Baseball Club had a gun raffle and this is the funds raised and it has to run through the Fire Department, the funds are to be used for the Baseball announcer booth for Regional tournament and will go into the Parks fund. Turnquist moved and Jaeger second approving Resolution 2016-12. The motion carried, all in favor.

G. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$1,173,167.12. This includes the CD account of \$45,657.77. Ruschmeier moved and Jaeger second approving the Treasure report as printed. The motion carried, all in favor.

H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier second to approve the claims in the amount of \$22,864.54. The motion carried, all in favor.

I. WATER SEWER REPORT: Van Lith has started with the sump pump inspections. Turnquist and Van Lith reviewed the process and decided they will inspect each other's systems for compliance.

J. 1. Council reviewed the correspondence from the City Attorney in regards to Solar Subscription agreement. After reviewing Attorney's comment Council has decided to decline subscription. Ruschmeier moved and Turnquist second declining the Solar Subscription agreement with MN Solar. The motion carried, all in favor.

2. Council reviewed the Water and Sewer plan from Ehlers. Ruschmeier moved and Van Lith second approving the 2017 water and sewer rate increases as in water & sewer analysis from Ehlers. Jaeger's question was if we continue to see growth the plan would improve and everything would be revisited to reflect these numbers. The motion carried, all in favor.

3. Ridgeview Medical Center (RMC) recommends it would be for everyone's benefit to have an agreement. RMC will look into drafting an agreement for the space and Council can review and make

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any changes, also have the City Attorney review before signing. Council had a discussion and decided it would be in the City's best interest to continue moving forward with contract agreement.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: 261 Lincoln Avenue N – window.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Resident came in who has the vehicle on blocks; he has been busy with work and will be attending to vehicle in the near future. Council questioned if the camper issue at 340 State Avenue S has been addressed; the answer was no from the Clerk. Council directed the Clerk to move forward with the City Attorney.

M. PW REPORT: Van Lith brought up that Public Works would like to get going on the placement of the Welcome to New Germany signs; Council had discussion. Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier second for Van Lith to pick the appropriate placing for the Welcome to New Germany signs. The motion carried, all in favor.

N. PARKS REPORT: Park minutes and treasure report submitted by Jaeger. Jaeger also noted the Belgian Waffle Breakfast is this Sunday 8:30 – 12:30; spread the word.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Nothing at this time.

P. CITY CLERK REPORT:

Ehlers out on conference should get back to me by end of week to answer questions.

Election meetings will be starting next week.

In the newsletter I put a message regarding senior residents and monthly potluck. I have received some input and would like to move forward with potluck. It would be on Wednesday's, monthly from 11:30 - ?, movies were another idea brought up, if a TV and DVD player are available. To start the program we will just go with cards or games. Very little cost to the City: paper plates, napkins, utensils and coffee. Checked with County on Jake breaking; comprehensive engine breaking. County informed me they can make signs but they are not enforceable by the police department if there is no compressive engine breaking ordinance. The County was more than willing to make signs, but it would be the City's expense. County also informed that it is safer to allow compressive breaking than regular conventional braking.

Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1 Council reviewed the information on Hilda Avenue and had discussion. Ruschmeier moved and Van Lith second if reasonable move forward with County finding out the numbers for residents on Hilda and 62nd Street that goes towards road fees. The motion carried, all in favor.

2. No further discussion tonight.

3. Keep on the agenda for future discussion.

R. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Turnquist mentioned to collect the barrels at the park, Jaeger stated she usually does some racking before putting away.

S. ADJOURNMENT: Jaeger moved and Turnquist second to adjourn meeting at 7:57 PM. The motion carried, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk