

## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES --- FEBRUARY 2, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Regular City Council meeting was held on February 2, 2016 in the city council room of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Steve VanLith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those present were Mayor VanLith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Cathy Ruschmeier and Nick Hartwig. Others present were Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeier.

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Turnquist moved and Ruschmeier seconded approval of the Minutes. The motion carried.

**SHERIFFS REPORT.** A year end report was included in the Council packet.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** The representative from Nu-telecom was unable to attend the meeting; however, he had given Chief Ruschmeier the information. Basic cable for the city hall and the fire station would be free. That would include one box. Any additional boxes are \$2.00 per box. Was suggested that we take the next upgrade on the cable which include some additional channels. A cable will be put in upstairs in the Legion room; a cable will be run to the council room and also behind the bar downstairs. These areas would then be ready if a TV in that area would be needed. The line to the upstairs and the fire barn with one box would be \$150.00 labor and \$75.00 for parts. Cost for the upgrade would be \$50.00 per month. A two year contract would need to be signed. Question was asked by the council, if Ridgeview Ambulance Service would decide that this location is not working, would we be held to the \$50.00 per month for the upgrade or could we drop down to basic cable which is free. Chief Ruschmeier will check on this. On motion by Jaeger, second Ruschmeier to go with the upgraded cable and continue forward with this cable service. The motion carried.

**RIDGEVIEW MEDICAL SERVICE:** All Exit lights have been installed or repaired at the city hall. A regular on/off switch was installed in the upstairs bathroom area. The Ambulance Service will receive keys for the front door of the hall and also for the fire barn.

Cole Midthun has completed Fire Fighter One and 1<sup>st</sup> Responder classes. The Fire Department has received a new application from Clayton Quast. He has recently built a new home in Black Forest. Background checks and physical will be done shortly.

Township Contracts are ready and will be gone over at the next Council meeting. City of New Germany's fair share amounts to \$29,536.98; Camden Township's fair share

amounts to \$31,766.17; Hollywood Township's fair share amounts to \$33,341.40. This is for the year 2017.

Contracts will be due and payable January 1 and July 1 of each year.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$837,263.36 in the General Fund; Bond account is \$1,045; CD account amounts to \$47,600.67 for a total of \$885,909.03. On motion by Turnquist, second Jaeger to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.

**CLAIMS:** Claims had been reviewed prior to the meeting. On motion by Turnquist, second Ruschmeier to approve the claims. The motion carried.

**SEWER WATER REPORT:** Clerk will be ordering 12 meters; completed the Tier II reporting

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:** On January 25, the clerk arrived at the city office to find she had no heat in the council room. She called Hollywood Heating and they put the blower housing/motor on furnace from upstairs furnace as temporary fix. Discussion was held do we wish to repair old furnace or purchase new. Hollywood Heating had submitted a bid for \$3860.00 for a new furnace. On motion by Turnquist, second Jaeger to replace the furnace and accept the bid from Hollywood Heating. The motion carried.

We have also received a letter from Holasek Greenhouses in Lester Prairie. A few years ago they had contacted the Commercial Club if they could put flower barrels in town for beautification. At that time, we were in the middle of our major utility/street project and had decided against it. They would furnish the planters and flowers for a fee, we would have to keep the flowers watered. At this time, the Council decided not to go with this project. Shirley will check on what the price of the planters were at that time.

**BUILDING PERMITS:** Nothing at this time.

**COMPLAINT LOG:** Nothing at this time.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Plowing will need to be done late tonight or early morning due to snowfall today and tonight.

**PARKS:** Shirley noted that the Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, March 19, not the 26 as noted in the city news letter.

**CITY CLERK REPORT:** Kevin Horstman as fixed the doors, they close nicely now. The city clerk also noted on January 25 there was water leaking behind the bar in the basement. She called Gerald Roepke, who turned the water off and will be repairing a cold water line from the upstairs bar. Employee review will be held on February 16 at 6:00 PM, if this works for the city clerk. Planning Commission will meet on February 10 at 6:00 PM. USDA program has sent out some information in regard to having funds available for very low and low income residents of rural Minnesota that

are interested in purchasing a home or for current homeowners in need of essential repairs.

ADJOURNMENT: Turnquist motioned, seconded by Ruschmeier to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted  
absence of clerk.

Shirley Jaeger, Councilperson in the