

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2019

- A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor VanLith with the following members present: Mayor Steve VanLith, Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Thomas Mielke and Nick Hartwig. Guests present were Pat Devine from School District 110 and Ryan Miles from Ehlers.
- B. CITIZENS COMMENT: None.
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was approved as written on motion by Ty Turnquist, second Thomas Mielke and passed all in favor 5/0.
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The November 5 Minutes had one correction under Letter F, it should state that the \$10,000 will be coming from the Fire Relief Pension Fund. Noting this correction on motion by Steve VanLith, second Thomas Mielke and passed 5/0 approving the Minutes as printed.
- E. SHERIFF'S REPORT: The 2020 NW Regional Work Plan as in the Council Packet for review and the Sheriff's regular report was on the table. Nothing more at this time.
- F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Nothing at this time.
- G. TREASURER REPORT: Report showed a balance of \$1,509,507.22 including CD's in the amount of \$49,723. On motion by Ty Turnquist, second Thomas Mielke and passed 5/0 accepting the Treasurer's Report as printed.
- H. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Bills had been reviewed by Council and on motion by Ty Turnquist, second Shirley Jaeger and passed 5/0 to pay the Claims as presented.
- I. SEWER AND WATER REPORT: Nothing at this time.
- J. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: Pat Devine from School District 110 was present to give us an update on the District. Things are going well with academics and sports. A survey had been sent out to parents and students in regard to how the school system is doing in regard to teaching, interaction with teachers and students and education in general, the lowest score on the survey was an 88%. On the state and national average of composite scores, they are also above the average. Financially, however, the picture has turned. The State of Minnesota has implemented a new special education funding formula that is affecting the school finances. There is a lag time of 24 months for the school district to

receive their funding reimbursements from the state. The district had spent down their fund balance in order to maintain the budget and now with the state's new system, they are financially underwater. They have made 1.4 million in cuts to balance the budget Student growth and any surplus money will help the district rebuild their fund balance.

Ryan Miles was present to discuss the investment program. The account has been opened. He has gone over our bank statements for the last two years and noted that our minimum balance in the last two years was \$1.2 million. His suggestion was to invest approximately \$1 million, leave \$200,000 at the local bank and put \$250,000 in a Money Market Mutual with Ehlers which is available immediately. He would invest smaller amounts to come due at different months of the year, so access could be gained throughout the year. We would see these financial reports monthly. The city clerk and mayor have access to these accounts at any time. Question was asked how the auditors would react to only having city clerk working with these accounts. We can now report that we have a "professional money manager" handling our investments. The longer the investment, the better the rate of return. Interest can be added to the investment or we can request a check at the end of the year. On motion by Ty Turnquist, second Thomas Mielke and passed 5/0.

Carver County Shooting Sports has again requested use of the hall for the winter months on Thursday evenings. On motion by Tom Mielke, second Nick Hartwig and passed 5/0 allowing them the free use of the city hall this winter.

Resolution 2019-18 a Resolution Approving the LG 55 Government Approval or Acknowledgement for Use of Gambling Funds in the amount of \$1000. This would be for the Stokes Basket Rescue Equipment. On motion by Shirley Jaeger, second Thomas Mielke and passed 5/0 approving Resolution 2019-18.

Resolution 2019-19 a Resolution Approving the Polling Place for the City Of New Germany for the 2020 elections as the city hall. On motion by Ty Turnquist, second Thomas Mielke and passed approving the Resolution 5/0.

Resolution 2019-20 Approving the Terms of an Internal Loan in Connection with the Fire Department Equipment. Was noted that Ehlers will be at the December meeting to show us how this can be done. On motion by Thomas Mielke, second Shirley Jaeger and passed 5/0 approving Resolution 2019-20.

K. BUILDING PERMITS UPDATE: None

L. COMPLAINT LOG: None

M. PUBLIC WORKS: The bobcat is at Lano's for repair. Christmas lights will be hung this Saturday at 1:00 PM.

- N. PARKS REPORT: None
- O. MAYORS REPORT: None
- P. CLERKS REPORT: The janitor reported to the clerk that the scrubber originally approved is no longer available. A new quote has been gotten from Hillyard in Hutchinson for \$5800, which includes three brushes and cleaning solution. On motion by Ty Turnqujuist, second Shirley Jaeger and passed 5/0 approving the purchase of the scrubber from Hillyard.  
Councilor, Shirley Jaeger had filled in a few hours due to the clerk being out on medical leave. Discussion was held as to the rate of pay. She had been here approximately 25 hours. Was decided to pay her the same rate as what the office assistant receives. On motion by Steve VanLith, second Tom Mielke and passed 4/0. Shirley Jaeger abstained from this vote.
- Q. OLD BUSINESS: The tree is down in Black Forest but problem with roots is not totally solved. Hennings will go over and try and get the roots out.
- R. NEW BUSINESS: None.
- S. ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Ty Turnquist, second Nick Hartwig and passed 5/0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:17PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Jaeger

Councilor