

August 7, 2017

Council Meeting Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Lynn O'Brien called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present were Margie Ritter, Vic Moen, Amy Thurm, and Tony Donahue by Skype. Also in attendance were representatives from ICTV, Scenic Range Newspaper, City Engineers Glen Hodgson and Jayson Newman, and resident Mike Nelson.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the July 17, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes was made by Ritter, seconded by Moen. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Moen and seconded by Thurm to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Claims for Approval List, and Correspondence to include Greenway Joint Rec. Assoc. Minutes, The Ranger, ARDC 2018 Tax Levy, RAMS, DEED, Kootasca 2016 Progress Report, Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board Minutes, and LMC Bulletin. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Forum: None

Additions to Agenda: None

Reports:

Maintenance – It was brought to the attention of the Council that a complaint came regarding the parking of cars at the end of Fuhrman Ave. making it difficult for the school bus to turn around. The City will contact the resident.

Attorney – None

Engineer – Glen Hodgson, City Engineer, informed the Council that he was still working with the County regarding the Brush Pile Site lease. The question was asked if we could get back the amount paid for the Conditional Use Deed since the County did not approve this. The Clerk will check into this.

Hodgson updated the Council on the Proposed Bike Trail to Veterans Park. He and Jayson met with the owner of the property south of the railroad and was told that he would discuss the matter with his spouse and get back to them. They have not heard back and will contact him again.

Hodgson also informed the Council that the Glenwood Ditch Project has been completed, the crack sealing was started, and the ER siren was repaired by GRPUC awaiting the new siren.

Mayor – Mayor O'Brien will attend the Collaboration meeting in Coleraine. She also stated that the picnic had to be postponed due to the weather until Monday, August 14, 2017.

Clerk – None

Council – Moen will attend the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board Meeting. Thurm asked how residents can get involved in committees. The Mayor and Clerk will review our committees for openings.

Ritter reminded everyone of the Public Hearing on August 21, 2017 for the PEG Fee increase at 6:00 pm.

Committees:

Personnel – The committee will be updating the job description for the Maintenance.

Park/Recreation – Donahue thanked the Mayor for rescheduling the LaPrairie Annual Picnic for August 14, 2017. Mayor O’Brien stated that she has received comments of how well the youth programs went this year.

Facilities/Equipment – None

Zoning – Ritter referenced the unapproved minutes for the July 12th meeting.

Technology – None

Utilities – Ritter suggested setting up a meeting for the Utility Budget. The follow-up meetings with PUC have not been scheduled. Hodgson said that he will address this and stated that Julie Kennedy, General Manager, PUC, told him that a change was coming.

GreenStep – Moen said that the Farmers Market will not happen this year. The Council agreed that they all want LaPrairie to continue to have a Farmers Market. Moen stated that he and Councilor Amy Thurm cannot do it alone and need support from the community. They will look at ideas for next year.

Old Business:

A. Radar Sign Report – Jayson Newman, City Engineer, explained the Walter Avenue speed analysis which indicated a change in speed with the display being turned on. Ritter commented on the increased traffic speeds on Fraser Street. It was suggested to move the sign to LaPrairie Avenue and back to Fraser for a week on and off and analyze that data. This data could help in determining a need for another radar sign. The Hwy 2 speed monitoring was also discussed.

B. Glenwood Survey – Hodgson discussed the results of the survey. The question for discussion, “where do we go from here”. The principle problem of replacing of culverts and who will pay was discussed. The Facilities Committee will meet on Friday, August 11, 2017 to discuss the culverts,

overlay plan, pedestrian safety, and traffic calming. This information will be brought back to the council.

New Business:

A. Budget Work Session – August 21, 2017 – time to be determined – The Council decided on 4:00 pm for the Budget Work Session. The Mayor wanted the Clerk to be involved in the work session as well as Laura Pfeifer, Assistant Finance Director from Grand Rapids.

B. Refund RC's for liquor license - \$1091.65 – Ritter made the motion to refund RC's for the liquor license for \$1091.65 and Thurm seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn: The motion was made by Moen and seconded by Ritter to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlana Hess, City Clerk

Lynn O'Brien, Mayor