

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF BIG FALLS, COUNTY OF KOOCHICHING, STATE OF MINNESOTA, INCLUDING ALL ACCOUNTS SUBMITTED BY SAID COUNCIL.

July 11 2016

The regular meeting of the Big Falls City Council was called to order at 7 p.m. by Mayor Marta Lindemanis. Members present were Shawn Pritchard, Ken Warner, Ken Kennedy and Jeff Oehlerking.

Additions. Additions to the agenda were as follows: Mai garage property, Les Lepisto to address council.

Commissioner. Wayne Skoe was present for a report. Paving of main street is scheduled for September. The county will be taking care of the curb cut installation at the parking lot property.

Consent Agenda. The consent agenda was presented with the following items:

- Approval of June Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of June Financials
- Adopt Resolution 2016-07, A Resolution Acknowledging a Donation from the Big Falls Lions Club for the Special Projects Account
- Approve a building permit for Tim Treat

There was a motion by Pritchard to approve the consent agenda. Second by Warner. Motion carried.

Disbursements. The disbursements were reviewed. *There was a motion by Pritchard to approve disbursements in the amount of \$72,073.97, check numbers 15668 to 15727 and ACH 15063E – 15081E. Second by Oehlerking. Motion carried.*

Liquor Report. Linda Dey gave a liquor store report. 4th of July revenues were reviewed. A theft of beer from the beer garden cooler was reported. The council approved sponsorship of a car at the Bemidji Raceway in the amount of \$100. *There was a motion to approve the liquor report by Kennedy. Second by Warner. Motion carried.*

Fire/EMS. No one was present for a Fire/EMS report.

Maintenance Report. An airport inspection is scheduled for this week. There are some trees near the runways that will need to be cleared soon. The warranty inspection for the water project will take place at the end of this month. Issues were noted that need to be pointed out during the inspection. Improvements to the parking lot area have been started. It was noted that Koochiching County would like to see some sort of guard rail or barrier along the creek, to protect the drainage area. The council reviewed a letter from MDH concerning their sample monitoring procedures. No action is required by the city for this MDH issue. The final meter installs should be completed this month, with the exception of vacant properties and several problematic installs. Terry Baird reported that due to the recent heavy rains, there have been problems with ground water infiltration to the sewer system. The council would like a letter sent to all sewer customers, informing or reminding them that sump pumps and drain tiles cannot be connected to the sanitary sewer. The council reviewed overtime due to 4th of July preparation. *There was a motion by Pritchard to approve payment of 21.5 hours of overtime to Terry Baird, instead of accruing comp time. Second to the motion by Oehlerking. Motion carried.*

Clerk's Report. The clerk reported that the campground had a recent MN Department of Health inspection and that it passed with no violations noted. Information was presented for employee evaluations. The council decided to hold a closed meeting in November annually to prepare the evaluations. The review with the employee will take place at the December meeting. Both meetings will be held as a closed meeting, unless requested to be open by the employee. The council discussed preliminary budget planning. Funding options for possible street repairs were discussed. A complaint concerning mosquito spraying on private property was discussed. The clerk will make sure that all volunteers are notified about the complainants concerns, and properties not wishing to be sprayed.

Dog Complaints. Les Lepisto discussed concerns with the council about issues with dogs frequently running at large.

Mai Property. Pete Mai discussed a residential property that he owns along the city parking lot. He informed the council that he intends to demolish a garage on the property, which sits on a vacated city street. The council did not have any objections to the demolishing of the structure. The parking lot area was also discussed. Mr. Mai asked the council to reconsider their intention to install a fence along the west border of the parking lot. The council stated that they felt it would be in everyone's best interest to have some sort of barrier between the properties, and agreed to consider several options, and keep the Mais informed of any decisions.

Water/Sewer Rates. The council reviewed sample rate structure estimates using a base rate and usage charges. Until all meters are installed, and the actual annual usage is known, it will be difficult to establish the rate structure needed to balance the budget. The council is in favor of shifting more of the wage expense to the general budget. The monthly usage will be monitored, and the rate schedule will be worked out over the next several months, with changes to take effect January 1st.

Liability Coverage. The council reviewed the annual liability tort waiver form. *There was a motion by Pritchard to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Mn Statutes, Section 466.04 to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from LMCIT.* Second by Warner. The motion carried with all in favor.

Property Complaint. The council reviewed a complaint on a vacant property located at 206 Bigfork Ave. south. The complaint and photos provided revealed unsanitary conditions that could pose a health hazard. The city clerk is to contact several county offices to determine the best remedy to abate the unsanitary conditions as soon as possible.

The next regular meeting is set for Monday, August 8th, 2016 at 7 p.m. *There was a motion to adjourn by Warner.* Second by Pritchard. Motion carried.

Adjourned.

Marta Lindemanis, Mayor

Joan Nelson, City Clerk