

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

June 9, 2014

The regular meeting of the Big Falls City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Marta Lindemanis. Members present were Shawn Pritchard, Les Lepisto, Ken Warner and Donna Dauphinais.

Additions. A discussion of the community building roof was added to the agenda

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

- May Regular and Special Meeting Minutes
- May Financials
- Building Permit Approval- Dan Wicklund
- Resolution 2014-02 Lions Donation of \$8,000 for mosquito spray and table purchase
- Grant Satisfaction of Mortgages for SCDP Loan payoff to Glen Hazelton
- Approval of One-Day off-site gambling permit for Big Falls Lions for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Raffle at the ballpark

*There was a motion by Shawn Pritchard to approve the consent agenda, with a change to the special minutes noting that the liquor manager is to take a management class as part of the motion to raise the salary. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

Disbursements. The disbursements were reviewed. *There was a motion by Les Lepisto to approve disbursements in the amount of \$44,222.37 check numbers 14050 to 14105. Second by Shawn Pritchard. Motion carried.*

Water Project. Mark Hallan with WSN was present to give an update of the Water Project. Proposed changes to the distribution lines were discussed. A large portion of the original lines to be replaced will have to be removed from the project due to lack of funding. A revised plan with the modified distribution lines will be sent by WSN to USDA for a funding request.

Sheriff Dept. Dustin Hell, the new deputy stationed in Big Falls, was present to meet with the council and ask about concerns or issues.

County Commissioner. Wayne Skoe was present to talk with the council. The RECAP project was discussed. Mr. Skoe has been in contact with the company, and is helping to gather the information they are requesting. The council discussed the storm sewers in Big Falls. They are currently in need of repair. A letter is to be sent to the county engineer and the board about this issue.

Liquor Report. Kari Lehman was present for a report. She reported on current promotions and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July band. She will be attending a series of two 1-day management classes. The cost would be \$258 plus mileage to attend both. *There was a motion by Shawn Pritchard to approve attending the classes. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.* The carpets have been cleaned and the painting has been started. The old safe is to be put up for bids with a minimum bid of \$200.00. A luau is planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> of July. The council discussed minors in the bar – it is to be for meals only, and they are not to sit at the bar, they should be seated on the west side. *There was a motion by Ken Warner to approve the liquor report. Second by Les Lepisto. Motion carried.*

Fire/EMS. The council discussed that they would like to see more members trained on the new truck, and all operations of the fire trucks. Terry Baird reported that Brent Arnold has already being making plans to get training done.

Maintenance Report. There was a discussion of the recent flooding of the community building basement. It appears to have been caused by a combination of extreme rainfall and frost still in the ground in some areas. The water came up through the cracks in the floor, but apparently not through the walls. Discussion of installing new drain tiles followed. Possibly a grant could be applied for from KCDA to help with the project. This cannot be done until the ground dries.

Two sump pumps were installed to try to help solve the problem in the meantime. The council discussed a quote submitted by Shannon's for a new community building back up heat system. It was determined that a whole new system is too costly at this time. Quotes will be obtained for a new fuel oil tank instead. It was also noted that the Community Building roof appears to be sagging on one side. This needs to be looked into, and possible solutions and costs obtained. Terry Baird reported that the sewer pond inspection was completed but the results have not been sent out yet. A discharge had to be done due to the rainfall. He also reported that the lawn mower is in need of replacing. The council opted to purchase a mower on the open market, rather than the bidding process. *There was a motion by Ken Warner to purchase a new mower and utilize any special 0% financing if available, with a maximum purchase of \$10,000. Second to the motion by Donna Dauphinais. Motion carried. There was a motion by Ken Warner to approve the maintenance report. Second by Les Lepisto. Motion carried.*

Clerk's Report. The council discussed forming a strategic plan or capital improvements plan for the city. The plan would cover reserving funds for capital improvements or certain projects. It could also cover goals and plans for the city. It was decided that a budget line item is needed to designate funds for reserves. No action was taken. A policy committee meeting is needed to form the Tax Rebate Policy for the LMC Taxing District. A water bill for a property owned by Shirley Nelson was discussed. The council approved to disconnect the service as long as Ms. Nelson states that it is not in use. Several possible nuisance ordinance violations were discussed. The council asked Deputy Hell to inspect the properties and report his findings. A complaint concerning properties with long grass was reviewed. *There was a motion by Donna Dauphinais to issue a destruction order to the properties in the complaint upon verification of violation by city staff. Second to the motion by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

State Demographers Report. The council reviewed the estimated population and household estimates issues by the State Demographer. *There was a motion by Donna Dauphinais to accept the demographer's report. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

Mosquito Spraying. The Lions Club has made a donation to cover extra spraying this summer. A list of people willing to volunteer to do the spraying has been made, and a schedule will be set up to spray at least 2 times per week. Tuesday and Friday will be the set dates, unless weather causes a deviation from the schedule. Extra spraying may be needed around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The clerk will check into the availability of spray.

MN DNR Letter. The council reviewed a letter from the DNR concerning the spillway. They are not willing to restore the spillway. The letter stated that restoring the spillway would "act like a dam, and that can negatively impact water quality, block fish passage, and pose a drowning hazard." They also stated that they have "...heard from local officials that hydropower may not be cost effective at this site." They also expressed concern that it would not be permitted by the Bigfork River Board. While they do agree with diverting flow back into the main channel to prevent erosion and improve recreation, they are suggesting a rock weir could be placed upstream to accomplish these goals. The council does not agree with all of the statements in the letter instructed the clerk is to e-mail Representative Dill, asking to meet with him to discuss the contents of the letter.

Certificate of Redemption. The council signed and approved a Certificate of Real Estate Redemption for Timothy and Tammy Streed on their foreclosed property. The mortgage and all related foreclosure costs have been paid to the City.

The next regular meeting is set for July 14,, 2014 at 7 p.m.

*There was a motion to adjourn by Les Lepisto. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

Adjourned.