

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

May 12, 2014

The regular meeting of the Big Falls City Council was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Mayor Marta Lindemanis. Members present were Shawn Pritchard, Les Lepisto, Ken Warner and Donna Dauphinais.

Additions. Donna Dauphinais requested to address the council later in the meeting.. Matt Horton asked to be taken off the agenda. Motion to approve revised agenda by Ken Warner. Second by Shawn Pritchard. Motion carried.

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

- April Regular Meeting Minutes
- April Financials
- Building Permit Approval- Monte & Troy Nelson
- Acknowledge Tax Forfeit Apportionment – Tourism Funds \$6638.86.

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

Disbursements. The disbursements were reviewed. *There was a motion by Shawn Pritchard to approve disbursements in the amount of \$47,174.19 check numbers 13987 to 14049. Second by Les Lepisto. Motion carried.*

Water Project. Mark Hallan with WSN was present to give an update of the Water Project. Bid opening is delayed until May 21st at 11 a.m., due to changes made after the pre-construction conference. Due to the timing, the new tower will not be operational until 2015, but pipes and connections will be ready to go. A special council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2014 to review and act on the bids.

Liquor Report. Kari Lehman was present for a report. A DJ is planned for June 13th. Painting of the liquor walls is to be done in June. New shirts and can cozies have been ordered. *There was a motion by Ken Warner to approve the liquor report. Second by Les Lepisto. Motion carried.*

Fire/EMS. Brent Arnold and Beth Pihlaja were present for the fire/ems report. Refresher and new EMR training has begun. *There was a motion by Les Lepisto to approve the Fire/EMS report. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

Noise Complaint. Donna Dauphinais reported that she has received noise complaints from neighbors for late night parties and loud noises throughout the night in her neighborhood. The council agreed that Donna should urge the complainants to contact the sheriff if this should happen again, and ask their help in enforcing the city nuisance ordinance.

Maintenance Report. Terry Baird informed the council that the quote received to install and upgrade electric services for sites 12-14 would be \$4900.00 at the most. It could possibly be less, depending on how many rocks are in the area, and whether or not the lines can be buried or if they need to be encased in cement. *There was a motion by Shawn Pritchard to pay for installing and upgrading the electric services out of Economic Development Tourism Funding. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.* Terry will be attending water classes this week to renew his operator's license. The council discussed having one or two new people attend fireworks operators school. Terry Baird and Brent Arnold would be interested in this. *There was a motion to approve the maintenance report by Les Lepisto. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.*

Commissioner's Report. Wayne Skoe talked about the gasification site, and made plans to get photos and GPS information to the company. He reported that a new peat company is interested in the Pine Island site.

Clerk's Report. The council approved to order tents and portable toilets for the 4th of July the same as the previous year. A request from Bill Gorden to place an advertising sign on city property was approved, and it was noted that signs along

the highway would need DOT approval if they are located in the right of way. The clerk presented information from the insurance underwriter concerning having ATV mud runs on the city property leased by Greg Neuenfeldt. The underwriter made several recommendations to ensure the city is covered, including adding a clause to the lease the would require liability insurance with the city listed as an additional insured party, and a clause that would indemnify and hold the city harmless from any claims arising from any event on the property. The council would approve having the event on the leased property if an amended lease could be obtained with the noted changes. The council asked the clerk to send out notices to several dog owners, reminding them that dogs must be leashed in city limits. *There was a motion to approve the clerk's report by Ken Warner. Second by Les Lepisto. Motion carried.*

Mural. The clerk presented copies of photos from the Koochiching County historical museum. The council decided what pictures they would like in the final mural. The clerk is to submit the photos to the museum, and they will provide hi-res photos for Sandy Frye to incorporate into the design.

Tax Forfeit Property. The council reviewed an e-mail from the land commissioner. In the e-mail he stated that the property next to the old school could be purchased for about \$5,000, maybe a little less. Commissioner Skoe will talk further with him concerning the asking price.

Highway 6. Les Lepisto reported that he has been in contact with MN DOT officials in Duluth. They stated that resurfacing and replacing culverts on highway 6 is scheduled for 2019. The council discussed whether or not a turning lane should be installed onto highway 71, to avoid the disintegration of the asphalt due to sliding truck tires. The council discussed that the portion of highway 6 within city limits is so bad, that that feel it should be taken care of much sooner than 2019. The clerk is to send a letter asking the DOT to consider at least an overlay in the near future.

The next regular meeting is set for June 9, 2014 at 7 p.m.

There was a motion to adjourn by Shawn Pritchard. Second by Ken Warner. Motion carried.

Adjourned.

Marta Lindemanis, Mayor

Joan Nelson, City Clerk