

Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 3, 2017
5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Present: Autumn Johnson, Jason Resseman, Marge Drake, Tom Smith, and Bridget Harvey

Absent: None

Visitors: Attorney Tom Manion, Bretta Grabau, Char and Michael Brown, Robin Krom, Bill Swanson, Scott Paulson, David Meyer, Gary Harter, Jeff Holmquist, Jim Watson, Hannah Wingert, Bonnie Handmacher, Steve and Diane Snyder, and Elaine Edwards

Regular Meeting:

Mayor Johnson called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

- A. Agenda:** Member Resseman motioned to approve the agenda as submitted with the following additions: Minutes of the March 28th Council Meeting, Lodging License for Speltz, Brush Dump burning, and Hiking trail to miscellaneous. Member Drake seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Approval of Minutes:**
1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March 6th, 2017
Mayor Johnson motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- C. Consent Agenda:**
1. Accounts Payable
 2. Temporary Liquor License – Root River Valley Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation
 3. Gambling License - Root River Valley Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation
 4. Ox Trail Closure – Buffalo Roam, Saturday, August 5th, 2017 8am- 11am
 5. Ordinance 71.043 – Snow Route, Kirkwood Street West
 6. Lanesboro Arts Center – Temporary Liquor Licenses
- Member Resseman motioned to approve the Consent agenda items. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Proclamation by Mayor Johnson: Mayor Johnson read the proclamation recognizing Isaac Snyder on his accomplishments with the League of Minnesota Cities Mayor for a Day Essay Contest.

Proclamation by Mayor Johnson: Mayor Johnson read the proclamation recognizing April 23rd – April 29th 2017, National Volunteer Week.

Public Hearing: The Public Hearing was opened by Mayor Johnson at 5:35pm to discuss the funding applied for through the USDA for Fire Department equipment purchases. Member Smith inquired if the Fire Department was backing the purchase of the equipment as well as the costs to the City. Administrator Peterson noted that the Fire Department had expressed interest in acquiring the equipment during the budgeting process for 2017. For this reason funding for said purchase was being applied for, once funding has been determined the Fire Department would have the final say in the purchase. The Siren grant would be 75% coverage, while the grant applied for the equipment would be 35%. Member Drake motioned to close the Public Hearing at 5:37pm. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Committee Reports:

- A. Fire Department:** Chief Wagner recommended the Council appoint Blaine Harmon to the Fire Department. Member Resseman motioned to approve the appointment. Member Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor. Wagner also noted that the 800MgZ radios have been installed in the trucks, however the handhelds are still with the County. It was also noted that training for the new radios has been completed.
- B. Library:** No report was available.
- C. HPC:** Member Resseman noted that the Historic District Expansion is complete. There will be a letter going out to property owners to notify them of this. The HPC is also considering partnering with the museum to sell plaques for homes. The HPC is also looking to gather and build more information on the historic properties in town.

Regular Business:

- A. RFP for Refuse and Recycling Services:** Member Smith motioned to open discussion on the 3 RFP's received. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor. Discussion continued with clarification on the proposals from Waste Management, Harter's, and Advanced Disposal. Mayor Johnson motioned to accept the proposal of services from Advanced Disposal. Member Drake seconded the motion. Member Smith inquired to the ability to interrupt residential services. David Meyer with Advanced Disposal noted that a residential property could be placed on hold for two months. Audience member Bill Swanson inquired about using a local contractor. It was noted that Advanced Disposal was out of Rochester, while Harter's was out of La Crosse. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Street Closure Request: Coffee Street East 8am – 5pm, May 13th, and September 23rd:** Mayor Johnson motioned to approve the street closure request for Ladies Day out events. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- C. Discussion of meeting change proposal:** Member Smith provided the thought of implementing a Public input section to the regular meeting. This could be a period of up to 10-15 minutes, with minimums based on the number of individuals that would like to speak. It was noted that the current protocol of filling out a form in advance allowed for advance consideration of the topic. Also of note was the desire to promote the Community Meeting held the first Thursday of the month at 9am. At this time no change will be made to the regular agenda, however the idea may be revisited in the future.
- D. Continued Business:**
 - 1. Sewer Utility Charges:** Member Smith motioned to leave the rates as is with no increase. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Mayor Johnson and member Drake noted the need to increase rates in order to plan ahead for needed infrastructure improvement. Member Smith voted in favor, while Mayor Johnson and Members Drake, Resseman, and Harvey voted no. Mayor Johnson then motioned to increase the sewer rates at the recommended 7%. Member Drake seconded the motion. Discussion was then had regarding the amount of annual increase for commercial properties; the spreadsheet included in the packet provided the necessary information. Mayor Johnson and Members Resseman and Drake voted yes. Members Smith and Harvey voted no. Motion carried.
 - 2. Public Utilities Commission Authority:** Discussion began with the idea that if the commission was disbanded it could never be brought back per state statute. Concerns were also discussed regarding the authority of non- elected officials. Mayor Johnson motioned to have Attorney Manion draft an ordinance stating the power of the Public Utilities Commission. The Council would like to retain the authority to set rates, accept the budget, enter into contracts, and maintain employees. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - 3. Code of Conduct:** Member Smith provided updated versions of the code of conduct. He also brought forward his idea to create binders for all board and commission members which would include the

following: Code of Conduct, meeting schedule, protocol information, and paper. Mayor Johnson noted that the Social Media policy should also be included in the binders. Member Resseman noted he would like to see a line item on the Boards and Commissions code of conduct to reflect the respect for staff time. It was also requested that the line regarding the acceptance of a decision be edited. Attorney Manion will suggest an edit for this. Member Resseman motioned to table the Board and Commission Code of Conduct. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

An edit of the Council Code of Conduct was also suggested for the wording on accepting a decision, which Attorney Manion will also provide. Mayor Johnson motioned to table the Council Code of Conduct. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

E. Miscellaneous:

- 1. Minutes of the Special Council Meeting March 28th, 2017:** Member Resseman motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Member Drake seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- 2. Lodging License for Speltz:** Member Resseman requested clarification of residence as it pertains to the B & B ordinance. Attorney Manion provided that someone not need to live in the residence 24/7, however there must be someone living in the house while there are guests. Mayor Johnson motioned to approve the lodging license. Member Drake seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- 3. Brush Dump Burning:** Public Works Director Andy Drake inquired as to when the Council would like to begin the burning at the old brush dump in order to clear the site. It was noted that the pile should be pulled apart into smaller piles to allow for better burning, and that the burning should begin as soon as possible, preferably not over the weekends.
- 4. Hiking Trail:** Mayor Johnson noted that she is inquiring to the opportunity of having a hiking trail between Lanesboro and Whalan. Johnson noted this was not a City of Lanesboro sanctioned project, and that she will also speak with the City of Whalan.

Closed meeting: Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 subdivision 3 (a) the meeting was closed to discuss the annual staff and volunteer performance reviews of those who are subject to the Lanesboro City Council's authority. Meeting was closed at 6:32pm.

The Regular public meeting was then reopened at 7:14.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 1st, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN: Mayor Johnson moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Resseman. Motion Carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk