

Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 7th, 2016
5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Present: Autumn Johnson, Robin Krom, Tom Dybing, Jason Resseman and Tom Smith

Absent: None

Visitors: Attorney Tom Manion, Bretta Grabau, Char Brown, Brian Malm, Bill and Karen Swanson, Ceil Allen, Michael Davy, Michael Charlebois, Hannah Wingert, Mike and Sonya Bubany, Pam and Jim Watson, Mark Edwards, Rev. Kerry Eversole, and Trish Capua.

Regular Meeting:

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

- A. Agenda:** Member Resseman made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted with the additions of: Committee report – Library, Mike Bubany Resolution 2016-18, Turkey Bowling, and Resolution 2016-17, as well the deletion of Committee reports – Fire. Motion seconded by Council Member Dybing. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Consent Agenda:**
1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, October 3rd, 2016
 2. Accounts Payable
 3. Resolution 2016-15, Appointing General Election Judges
 4. Agreement for Professional Services

Member Resseman motioned to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Committee/Commission Reports:

- A. Library:** Karen Swanson was present to provide an update from the Library Board. Swanson provided information pertaining to the different users of the library as well as upcoming events for the library. She also noted the completion of the Reading Garden on the South side of the Community Center Building. The Library reports: 1,143 Cardholders, 11,090 visitors, and 37 programs.
- B. Public Utilities:** Tom Dybing provided an update from the Public Utilities Commission. The commission last met on October 19th. During this meeting the commission reviewed: recent UMMEG meeting, review of electric contract, electric rate study once rates are in, bucket truck safety updates, hydrant replacement, clearing trees, fish hatchery 3 phase extension, 2017 budget, Utility rates, Circle Drive water connection letters, and finally the SEARCH Grant and contract with Davy Engineering continued discussion.
- C. Administrator Update:** Administrator Peterson noted the Grant received from the Minnesota Historical Society for the Sons of Norway building restoration. Also discussed was the upcoming volunteer project this coming Saturday, November 12th. Volunteers will be clearing trees and other vegetation from the

County Road 8 Bridge up to the fence for the Brush dump. Peterson noted that the County, DNR, and Fillmore County SWCD had all been notified of the project. No concerns were brought forward.

Regular Business:

- A. Mike Bubany, Resolution 2016-18:** Mike Bubany provided the Council with an overview of the process that went into the refinance of this bond. He also provided details with regard to the new funding. There would be no prepayment until after 02/01/2017. The regular payment will still be made in February; the term would stay the same, no invoice fee, and a lower interest rate. The lower interest rate will mean a recognized savings of over \$27,000 for the City over the life of the bond. Member Dybing motioned to approve Resolution 2016-18, General Obligation Refunding Note. Member Krom seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. Sons of Norway, Fiscal Agent Request:** Member Johnson motioned to approve the City acting as the Fiscal agent for the Sons of Norway in a grant application for the Arlin Falck Foundation. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- C. Bids for 2005 Ford F350:** Two bids were received one for \$3450 and one for \$7100. Member Johnson motioned to approve the bid for \$7,100 for the sale of the 2005 Ford F350. Member Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- D. Chamber of Commerce, funding request:** A request for \$400 towards matching funds for the Dairyland Grant was received. No motions were made regarding the request.
- E. Resolution 2016-16 – Setting a Public Hearing on a Vacation:** Mayor Krom motioned to table this discussion indefinitely. Member Smith seconded the motion. Discussion was had regarding having more time to discover as well as the process for a vacation. Jim Watson owner of the Red Hotel noted the damage to the alley previously by tree contractors. Member Jonson noted the need for repair to the alley. Motion carried all in favor.
- F. Davy Engineering Contract:** Administrator Peterson provided background information for this discussion. While working with Davy Engineering on the Water project, a possible grant for Wastewater was discovered. The City did apply for this grant with the USDA, and was granted \$30,000. The problem occurred in that the contract to work with Davy Engineering for this grant was never approved in the public record by the Public Utility Commission or the City Council. Also of concern is the exact deliverable of this contract. To date \$10,000 has been spent. Attorney Manion provided legal opinion. Commission Member Char Brown noted the clause in the contract to terminate for convenience, as well stated the consensus of the Public Utilities commission was to leverage the talents of the City Engineer. Michael Davy was present to provide background information as well. Davy Engineering reported the scope of the work was to include evaluation of various sites for a Wastewater Treatment Facility, including the current location. Within the grant agreement it does state that a Preliminary Engineering Report would be a deliverable, however this is not stated in the statement of work from Davy Engineering. Mr. Davy noted there is much to explore yet, availability of land, best location, will it be cost effective, and is there room for expansion in the current location. Administrator Peterson will forward the contract and grant information to Attorney Manion for review. Member Johnson motioned to table this item until next month. Member Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- G. Rural and Urban Service District:** Mayor Krom noted this idea had been discussed in the past, and therefore a suggested ordinance was presented. It was discussed to have this information brought

forward to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Further discussion was had regarding the determination of the formula to determine benefits. Discussion to be continued.

- H. **Health Insurance Coverage:** Administrator Peterson presented an application for group health insurance. Member Johnson motioned to approve submission of the application. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Discussion was had regarding the current amount of the stipend given to full time employees. Motion carried all in favor.
- I. **Turkey Bowling:** Member Resseman motioned to approve using three parking spaces on Parkway Avenue in front of the High Court Pub from 4-10pm on November 23, 2016. Mayor Krom seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- J. **Resolution 2016-17:** Member Johnson motioned to approve Resolution 2016-17, for a cooperative snow removal on Highway 250 within the City of Lanesboro. Member Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- K. **Continued Business:**
 - a) **Pedestrian Crosswalk Signs:** Administrator Peterson had spoken with the City of Chatfield; they reported that the installation of these signs had a positive impact. Peterson was asked to place funding for the sign in the 2017 budget. Discussion will be continued on signs in the spring of 2017.
 - b) **2017 Budget**
 - 1. **RFP for Services:** Member Dybing motioned to approve request for proposals for Newspaper and Attorney, as well as Garbage in the spring of 2017. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - 2. **Utilities Rate Increase:** Administrator Peterson provided an overview of the recommended Utility rate increases for Electric, Sewer, and Garbage. Also noting that the Commission is still reviewing the Water rates. Mayor Krom motioned to table the discussion until next month. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - 3. Member Smith also provided the Council members with a document showing his suggested changes for the 2017 budget.
 - c) **Herbicide Task Force:** Member Dybing relayed information that he and Anna Loney had been able to meet and also did a tour of the City. They would like to create a volunteer group to help identify areas with invasive species in town, as well consider spraying protocols. In the spring they will search out volunteers, verify with the DNR, and as well identify possible alternative plantings. It was noted that there may be possible grants to apply for, for the irradiation of invasive species. Member Resseman suggested considering a premergent.
 - d) **Feasibility Study:** Elaine Edwards was present to give an update on the possibility of a Senior Living Facility. She noted there had been a group of 14 individuals that went to Cedar Rapids and spoke with CEO Kris Hansen as well as financial advisor Pat O'Leary from Western Home Communities. She noted that the idea is still very preliminary, that no decisions have been made at this time. Rev. Kerry Eversole was one that visited the development; he stated he was very impressed with the facilities. Noting also that it was very similar to Clara's House in Harmony. He felt that the representatives from Western Home Communities were knowledgeable. Mayor Krom questioned what the next step was. Edwards noted Western

Home Communities would be researching a plan, with a timeline and expectations. They will be contacting Administrator Peterson for possible land ideas.

- e) **Concept Plan – Task Force:** Member Smith noted the task force had met three times since the last City Council meeting. They have also submitted new releases to the local newspapers. He stated the group had received 25 surveys back noting volunteers that would like to help with one or more of the 17 projects. Smith also discussed the Blandin Foundation grant opportunity. The Task Force will be creating a template for project ideas. Julie Kiehne will provide the final report to the Council in December 2016. The group is also considering requesting the continuation of the Task Force. Member Johnson questioned some of the items listed on the agenda for the Task Force, noting they were not part of the Concept Plan. Member Smith stated those items had not been discussed, however if they tied into one of the 17 projects they were included.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 5th, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN: Council Member Johnson moved to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Motion seconded by Member Resseman. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk