

Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 2nd, 2019
City Council Chambers

Present: Jason Resseman, Tom Smith, Bridget Harvey, and Chase Bakke

Absent: Autumn Johnson

Visitors: Bonita Underbakke, Hannah Wingert, Harriet Lawston, Denise and John Dahle, Lester and Diane Dunn, Jerry Ritter, Ferne Brewster, Pat Gemlo, Dale Forester, Elve Albrecht, Mindy Albrecht-Benson, Rebecca Charles, Ron Flaa, Brian Malm, Jim and Pam Watson, Don Lukkasson, Mitchell Walbridge, Rob Wagner, John Nelson, Ceil Allen, Trish Capua, Betsy Holbrook, Anna Loney, Deane Benson, Rick Schnuafer, Chad Phillips, Kay Taylor, and Officer Gideon Prudoehl.

Mayor Resseman opened the 2020 Budget Workshop at 5:00 p.m. Specific items of discussion were department budgets for Fire, Street, Ambulance, and Park. Administrator Peterson recorded the suggested changes. The workshop was closed at 5:20 p.m.

Mayor Resseman opened the Truth in Taxation Hearing at 6:00 p.m. he provided a current levy amount as well as the increase over the 2019 levy. Several residents raised concerns:

- Dale Forester was concerned for the increased amounts and what were the specific increases. He also shared concerns for how the information was disseminated.
- Tricia Capua shared concerns for the increase of the levy and the effect on the business.
- Pam Watson also shared concerns for the effect of the increase on business, as well as the effect of increasing utility fees for businesses.
- David Landro noted concern with recent assessment amounts for the Auburn/Zenith road project. He stated an overall concern for business and residents.
- Don Lukkasson shared a positive message that the community is thriving.
- Mindy Albrecht-Benson inquired as to the reasons for the expense increases.
- Fern Brewster inquired regarding the value of properties, as well as how and when the process takes place.

Council Members and Administrator Peterson answered questions to the best of their abilities. Member Smith noted that other adjustments may also be given by the County and the School district. It was noted that the final levy increased by 5.45%. With no further the discussion the Hearing was closed at 6:34 p.m.

Mayor Resseman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Regular Meeting:

A. Agenda: Member Harvey motioned to approve the agenda with the amendments of: Removing item 3, Paving Estimates from Regular Business and adding Office Closure to Miscellaneous. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

B. Approval of Minutes:

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting, November 4th, 2019

Member Harvey motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Mayor Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

C. Consent Agenda:

1. Accounts Payable
2. Meeting Schedule for 2020
3. Ordinance 54.06 – 2020 LPU Rate Schedule
4. Resolution 2019-24 Reestablishing Precincts and Polling Places
5. Root River Game Protective League Incorporated Temporary Liquor License Application
6. Prevention of Frozen Water Service Lines Policy
7. Chapter 52: Water Regulations
8. Consortium Member Agreement – MMUA Drug and Alcohol Testing

Member Bakke motioned to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Discussion was had to verify insurance for the Temporary Liquor License. Motion carried all in favor.

Committee Reports:

- A. EDA – Director Rebecca Charles:** Director Charles introduced herself, and provided brief background information. Charles offered to share her monthly updates she reports to the EDA with the Council as well. Charles then gave an update on projects she is currently working, including applying for and receiving grant funding to provide educational classes for entrepreneurs.
- B. Fire – Relief Benefit from \$1450-\$1650:** Member Smith motioned to table the discussion until 2020, in order to clarify questions with the state auditor. There was also a recommendation for the State auditor’s office to wait until the financials for 2019 are complete. Mayor Resseman seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- C. LPU**
- a. WWTF**
 - i. Cost Estimate:** Brian Malm with Bolton & Menk noted that the current design of the Wastewater Treatment Facility is estimated to cost \$8,500,000. Malm also noted that the Public Facility Authority has estimated our affordability for this project at \$4,300,000. Therefore, any amount above the \$4,300,000 would be grant eligible. Grant funding will be dependent on funding from the legislature.
 - ii. Screening Options:** The Public Utility Commission recommended a screening option with a cost estimate of \$450,000. Discussion was had for the concern of the cost, yet the desire to have the space aesthetically pleasing. Member Harvey motioned to cap the total cost for screening of the facility at \$200,000. Member Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor. A revised plan will be submitted to the Council at the January meeting. The goal is to bid the project in February or March of 2020.
 - b. Committee Member Applications:** Mayor Resseman motioned to appoint Elliot Riggott to the Public Utility Commission for a three-year term beginning in January of 2020. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- D. Park Board – Committee Recommendation:** Member Bakke motioned to appoint Sam Hareldson and Alex Gehrig to the Park Board, both for three-year terms. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- E. Heritage Preservation Commission- Committee Application:** No committee applications were received for HPC.
- F. Ambulance:** Director Benson noted that there have been 89 calls to date. Recently the Ambulance experienced some wiring issues, with ended with David Haugen taking the Ambulance to Iowa for repairs at the manufacturer. Mayor Resseman thanked Director Benson and David Haugen for their quick work to correct the problem and have the ambulance out of service for as little time as possible.

Director Benson would like to hold a meeting to invite the public to talk about the dire need for volunteers. Benson will work with Administrator Peterson to schedule a time and date to hold the meeting in the end of January or beginning of February 2020.

Regular Business:

- A. Resolution 2019-23 Certifying Final Tax Levy:** Member Smith motioned to approve resolution 2019-23. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- B. RFP for Services:** Council requested that an RFP for Website services be sent out.
- C. Detachment Request – Rob and Melissa Wagner:** Rob Wagner reviewed the documentation that was shared in the Council packets for the detachment request. Member Smith motioned to support the request for detachment. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- D. Continued Business**
 - 1. Ordinance 71.03 – Parking Amendment:** Member Harvey motioned to approve the amended ordinance 71.03. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - 2. Westview Drive:** Mayor Resseman provided an overview of the previous discussions. Attorney Manion noted that a letter had been sent to all adjacent property owners notifying them of the discussion at the meeting. David Landro noted concern for assessments for repairs to the roadway. It was noted that the paving of that roadway was contracted and paid for by Lester Dunn, an adjacent property owner. There is now a collapsed drain in the road way, which has created a hole in the pavement. Discussion was had regarding state law, and the rights of the City to take over the street. Mayor Resseman motioned to table the discussion until January to allow time for Attorney Manion to review the documentation for the easements currently in place. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
 - 3. Dam Construction Engineering:** Administrator Peterson reviewed a quote from Bolton & Menk as well as the current contract with Ayers & Associates for the construction engineering. No action was taken.
- E. Preliminary Allegations:** Pursuant to Minnesota Statue 13D.05 Consideration of preliminary allegations of misconduct of a person over which the Lanesboro City Council has authority. Due to the person not being present, the meeting was closed at 7:41 p.m.
The meeting was reopened at 7:42 p.m. Mayor Resseman motioned to place Lollita (Lolly) Melander on indefinite Administrative Leave without pay until resolution of pending legal issue now in the courts. Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.
- F. Miscellaneous:**
 - 1. Office Closure:** Mayor Resseman motioned to close the office Friday, December 27th, 2019. Member Harvey seconded the motion. Motion carried all in favor.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 6th, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Member Smith moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Motion seconded by Mayor Resseman. Motion Carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk