

City of Bigfork
Regular City Council Meeting
February 14, 2019
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Bryan Boone, Paul Gustafson and Ben Maxa

Members Absent: Drew Francisco and David Mann

Also Present: Joe Zimmer, Curt Meyer, Gene Madsen, Sally Sedgewick, Thor Johnson, Gus David, Scarlett & Rogue Maxa

Mayor Boone called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the public forum was opened. Gene Madsen addressed the Council and stated that when he moved here in 1971 there was a banner across main street that read, "Bigfork, the last frontier. The last place homesteaded in the continental United States". He feels the City should advertise this interesting fact. Boone stated that if Madsen would like to complete the research to substantiate the claim, the Council would be happy to promote it.

As no one else wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

Four items were added to the agenda: Thor Johnson, Housing Study, Skating Rink Sponsor Sign and Zimmer vacation request.

Motion by Boone to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Maxa motion carried unanimously (MCU).

Consent Agenda: Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda including:

- 1. minutes of the January 8th regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for January 2019,***
- 3. financial reports for January 2019,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for January 2019,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for Jan 11th, 25th and Feb 8th regular payrolls in the amount of \$10,407.40***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$11,191.43, claims for payment in the amount of \$49,778.85, and a claim for Fire Department equipment for \$125,624.72.***

Thor Johnson: Johnson requested the Council's support of a project to add onto the school building for locker rooms and other athletic facility space. He briefly reviewed information on the failed bond referendums related to the same, the formation and subsequent disbanding of an Athletic Facilities Task Force, and the current desire to work toward completing the project as originally planned. No financial support is being requested from the City. The Council was in favor of offering verbal support. The Clerk will draft a resolution for passage at the March Council meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Engineering Updates: Curt Meyer with WidsethSmithNolting engineering was present to update the Council on the road improvement project. He reviewed that in December he discussed applying for BDPI funds to cover the difference between LRIP funding and the project total. He noted that the City's application will be more attractive to BDPI now that we have the LRIP funding. A resolution is needed for the BDPI application. ***Motion by Maxa to pass Resolution 2019-02, seconded by Boone, MCU.***

The next steps for the project are soil borings and pavement testing. A proposal was provided by Braun Intertec. ***Motion to accept the proposal from Braun Intertec in the amount of \$4,385 by Boone, seconded by Gustafson, MCU.***

Meyer provided a preliminary design set and noted he hopes to submit to the County for their review next month.

American Tower Easement: The Council approved an easement for American Tower for their communication tower access road on the north end of the City at the June 2017 meeting. This easement was never fully executed by American Tower and they are now requesting another term extension to the agreement before it is completed. The extension provides for a term-ending date of October 18, 2080. The adjacent landowner has already granted easement on their property for this same time period. ***Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, to approve the easement, MCU.***

City Hall Restoration – Change Order: Change Order #1 for Phase 2 of the City Hall Restoration project relates to the floor. It provides for the change from restoring the original floor to installing a new one. The total cost increase is \$5,471. There are some concerns about the finish on the floor which are being addressed with the contractor and as such, it is not recommended that the pay request accompanying this change order be approved yet. ***Motion by Gustafson, seconded by Maxa to approve Change Order #1, MCU.***

NEW BUSINESS

City Hall Cleaning: Quotes were received from two cleaning professionals and one employment service, and the Clerk had provided cost information for an in-house employee. The Council noted the significant cost increase in having either the employment service or a contracted cleaning service. The Clerk stated there will have to be a budget adjustment to allow for this cost. The item was tabled until the March meeting.

Restructuring of Investment Funds: The Clerk requested permission to combine the eight investment accounts held by the City into three or four combined accounts in order to increase interest earnings. The portion of each account attributable to a given fund will continue to be tracked. ***Motion by Boone, seconded by Gustafson to authorize the Clerk to combine accounts as their maturity dates arrive, MCU.***

Audio/Video Equipment: Boone provided a price quote for audio equipment and different options for video setups. As was discussed under the cleaning agenda item, the budget for City Hall will need adjustments. The Clerk noted that about \$26,000 is still needed for the restoration project itself. A 2019 line-item of \$15,000 was budgeted for furnishings for the newly-restored

building. About \$6,000 of this has been spent. The remaining \$9,000 could be re-allocated to pay for cleaning services and/or to help with the funding still needed for the restoration. Other needs include floor-protecting covers for the chair legs, window treatments, and audio/visual equipment. It was the consensus of the Council to purchase the chair leg covers now and to put everything else on hold.

Boone reviewed the quote for audio equipment with the Council, discussed the cost of a large-screen television, and requested input on whether this type of system is the direction they would like to go. The Council was in favor of this.

Motion by Maxa, seconded by Gustafson, to approve a vacation request for Joe Zimmer for March 19-28, MCU.

Housing Study Request: Itasca County HRA is doing an updated housing study and has inquired if area communities are interested in being included. It was the consensus of the Council to express interest in participating.

Skating Rink Sponsor Sign: A quote from Creek Bank Printing & Graphics for a 4x8 sign recognizing donors to the skating rink project was reviewed. ***Motion by Gustafson to approve sign purchase at a cost of \$290, seconded by Maxa, MCU.***

Sarah Stone reported back to the City regarding grooming half of the RiverWalk trail for skiing. It has been challenging and there is a learning curve to grooming in this way, however the EOWSKI group feels it's a great benefit to have this available to area skiers.

Motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. by Boone, seconded by Maxa, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
March 14, 2019

Mayor