

City of Bigfork

City Council Meeting

June 13, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Amy Pifher, Andrew Francisco and Peter Johnson

Members Absent: Benjamin Maxa and Eric Storlie

Also Present: Joe Zimmer and Aaron Gould

Mayor Pifher called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pifher opened the public forum. Pifher noted that the City had heard a concern from a resident regarding the process used to sell the city-owned property located at 500 Cedar Street. This parcel had been acquired from Itasca County through the tax-forfeiture process with the understanding that Habitat for Humanity would be purchasing it from the City. After the City purchased it, Habitat determined they could not use it. It was the Council's desire to resell the property as quickly as possible rather than risk being responsible for clean-up of it. It was stated in the April City Council minutes that the City would be attempting to sell the property. The Council did not advertise in the newspaper but would have considered doing so had a bid not been received on the property right away.

Pifher also noted that the Planning & Zoning Commission, at their June meeting, had granted a conditional use permit to Stephen Larson of Bigfork Research, Inc. to operate a research laboratory in the Splitting Mall building.

Pifher read a notice from Bryan Boone regarding Bigfork Area Work Days. The Bigfork Assembly of God Church will have a crew of workers in Bigfork June 26-30. They will be building a skating rink and disc golf course for the City. They are also looking for projects to do for individuals. If anyone has a project they could use some help with, they should contact the church.

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

A contract with WSN for well #6 and a request from Bryan Boone were added to the agenda. ***Motion by Johnson to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Francisco, motion carried unanimously (MCU).***

Consent Agenda: Motion by Francisco seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda including:

- 1. minutes of the May 8, 2017 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for May 2017,***
- 3. financial reports for May 2017,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for May 2017,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for May 19 and June 2 paydays in the amount of \$6,196.79***

6. *claims paid in the amount of \$71,818.49 and claims for payment in the amount of \$37,935.20*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WSN Well #6 Contract: Widseth, Smith & Nolting provided a contract for engineering services for well #6. The amount of the contract matches the amount in the original estimate. *Motion by Francisco seconded by Johnson to approve the contract with WSN for well #6 in the amount of \$19,100, MCU.*

The City has received a \$75,000 grant from the IRRRB for this project. The rest of the cost will be covered by the water investment fund.

Sewer Cleaning/Televising Proposals: Three proposals were received for sewer televising and cleaning services. *Motion by Francisco, seconded by Johnson to accept the proposal from J & R Wastewater, MCU.*

Personnel Policy Amendment: As per discussion at the April City Council meeting, the Clerk presented an amendment to the personnel policy clarifying that the City will pay for two attempts at the training and testing for required licenses for Public Works Department employees and any attempts beyond that would be at the employee's own expense. *Motion by Francisco, seconded by Johnson to adopt this policy amendment, MCU.*

NEW BUSINESS

American Tower Corporation Easement Extension: A request was received from American Tower Corporation to extend their existing easement for their communication tower access road on the north end of the City for another 40 years beyond the original expiration date. They have already extended their lease with the property owner for the tower itself, and desire now to have the access easement extended to the same terms. The new expiration date for the easement will be October 18, 2070. *Motion by Johnson, seconded by Francisco to grant the easement extension, MCU.*

Bryan Boone Request: Bryan Boone requested an additional \$1,500 for the skating rink and disc golf projects that will begin in two weeks. He also asked for the Council to decide where the pavilion should be relocated as it will need to be moved to accommodate the skating rink. *Motion by Francisco, seconded by Pipher to move the pavilion to the beach, MCU.*

Motion by Johnson to provide \$1,500 from the Gambling tax fund to the skating rink/disc golf projects with the stipulation that any funds left unused be earmarked for future maintenance and repairs, seconded by Francisco, MCU.

Zimmer extended a thank you to the school kids and teachers for all the projects they helped with on the May 31st work day. Pipher thanked the Public Works Department for all of their hard work during the week leading up to Wilderness Day.

Mayor Pifher closed the meeting at 6:34 p.m. for the purpose of conducting employee performance reviews.

Mayor Pifher reopened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Johnson at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Francisco, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the regular meeting held on
July 11, 2017

Mayor