

City of Bigfork
City Council Meeting
May 15, 2018
9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Mayor Amy Pifher, Paul Gustafson, Andrew Francisco and David Mann

Members Absent: Ben Maxa

Also Present: Terry Snyder, Doug Host, Joel Smith, Joe Zimmer, Mrs. Johnson's 8th grade social studies class, Ms. Porter's 9th grade math class, Ms. Reichensperger's senior high Novel class, Mrs. Maxa's 6th grade class, Mrs. Kuschel's Spanish class, Mr. Kaczor's 9th grade Phy-ed class, Mrs. Thompson's Media ESP class

Mayor Pifher called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the public forum was opened. As no one wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

Motion to approve the agenda by Francisco, seconded by Gustafson, motion carried unanimously (MCU).

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

- 1. minutes of the April 10 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for April 2018,***
- 3. financial reports for April 2018,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for April 2018,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for April 20 and May 4 regular payrolls in the amount of \$6,608.02***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$11,893.96 and claims for payment in the amount of \$29,022.43***

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Softball Field Update: The City has completed the property trade approved at the last meeting and now owns a parcel of property along County Road 236 that is suitable for development of a softball field. Zimmer was directed to obtain quotes for the dirt work.

Part Time Public Works Position: This request was tabled from the last meeting. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Gustafson to approve the requested position provided there is an application process, MCU.*** Zimmer will interview applicants and bring a recommendation for hire to the June Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Itasca County Updates: Terry Snyder, Itasca County District 2 Commissioner, was present with numerous updates. He notified the Council of educational webinars available to them through the University of Minnesota Extension Service. The County sponsored “Coffee with the County” in a handful of locations this year and will continue to do so. Snyder noted that the County spends between 8 and 10 million annually on roads. Some of this year’s projects will be done in conjunction with the State Hwy 38 project. Other road projects include a portion of County Road 45 and County Road 225. The County has been busy coordinating plans for emergency service and law enforcement access to properties affected by the Hwy 38 project. The County has worked with the school district to donate land for the school forest.

CliftonLarsonAllen – 2017 Audit Review: Doug Host from CliftonLarsonAllen was present with the 2017 audit review. He spoke briefly about accounting careers and what he does for cities. He specifically noted the perks and exciting parts of his job. Highlights of the audit report included:

- no significant deficiencies found
- one Minnesota legal compliance finding related to an invoice that was not paid within 35 days
- 2017 was the 5th year in a row that the General Fund had more revenues than disbursements
- Disbursements in the General fund decreased 7% from 2016
- The Water and Sewer Funds both had a reduction in net position for 2017
- The City’s overall increase in net worth for 2017 was \$100,000

Arvig Communication – Franchise Agreement Renewal: Joel Smith from Arvig was present to discuss renewal of their cable franchise agreement. The current agreement expires in June. Smith provided an updated version of the agreement. The Council wanted to ensure the agreement is non-exclusive and Smith verified that it is. It also provides the City with one free cable service. The agreement will be put into ordinance form for approval at the June meeting.

Community Work Day T-shirt Request: *Motion by Pifher to approve a contribution of \$300 toward t-shirts for the upcoming community work day, seconded by Francisco, MCU.*

Cedar Street Property: Pifher stated that the City still owns one lot on Cedar Street. There was discussion on getting it sold and back on the tax rolls, or possibly utilizing it for an RV park or some other city purpose. The Clerk was directed to get an appraisal of the property. Commissioner Snyder noted that he would have his staff contact the City regarding any potential funding for an RV park.

OTHER:

Mayor Pifher requested ideas from the students in attendance as to what events and activities they would like to see offered. Ideas discussed included a little league team, movie nights, an outdoor stage and more basketball hoops around the community.

Motion to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. by Mann, seconded by Gustafson, MCU.

Angela L. Storlie
City Clerk/Treasurer