

**City of Bigfork**  
**City Council Meeting**  
**November 14, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Mayor Amy Pifher, Eric Storlie, Andrew Francisco

**Members Absent:** Benjamin Maxa and Peter Johnson

**Also Present:** Joe Zimmer, Aaron Gould, Jeff Powell, Pat Medure, Becki Passeri, Curt Meyer, Kent Koerbitz

Mayor Pifher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.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.

ISD #318 elementary task force was moved to the top of the agenda. ***Motion by Francisco to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by E. Storlie motion carried unanimously (MCU).***

**Consent Agenda: *Motion by Francisco, seconded by E. Storlie and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda including:***

- 1. minutes of the October 10 regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for October 2017,***
- 3. financial reports for October 2017,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for October 2017,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for October 6, 20 and November 3, 2017 paydays in the amount of \$11,000.73***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$13,310.09 and claims for payment in the amount of \$28,428.30***

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ISD #318 Elementary Facilities Taskforce (EFT):** ISD #318 School Board Member Pat Medure introduced Kent Koerbitz to the Council. Koerbitz is Chairman of the Facilities Committee of the EFT. The EFT was created to answer two questions after last year's failed referendum; does the district really need this, and if so, how can the costs be kept as low as possible. The group studied the reasons for the failed referendum and is seeking to address the concerns they heard. They have come up with a proposal that they feel meets all the school district's needs and the concerns of the taxpayers. Their plan includes:

- two new 750 student K-5 schools with capability to expand if needed
- remodel for a 300 student K-5 school in Cohasset
- retain Southwest school for mandated programs and elimination of leased space
- redevelop Forest Lake and Riverview properties for housing
- keep costs under \$70 million if at all possible

Continued study is needed on use of Murphy school. The EFT plan would result in 19% less tax impact to \$150,000 homeowner (\$87 per year tax increase).

The EFTs full presentation to the School Board can be viewed on the School District's website at [www.isd318.org](http://www.isd318.org) under the "Facility Plan" menu. The next referendum date will be determined at tonight's School Board meeting. The Council was thanked for their time and Medure and Koerbitz exited the meeting at this time.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Widseth-Smith-Nolting – LRIP and Well #6 Update:** Curt Meyer of WSN reported on the Well #6 project. A test well had been drilled a few weeks ago. The borings showed a sand layer of about 10 feet in thickness. During the drilling, the main electrical line to the water treatment plant was cut. This has been repaired and it was determined the well location should be adjusted due to that electrical line and a potential water line in the same area. After drilling again about 7 feet away, the borings showed two 2-foot layers of sand separated by three feet of clay. Meyer explained that these two layers almost certainly have to be connected to the 10-foot layer and he feels that this location is still the City's best bet for getting a viable well. The driller will start developing the well on Thursday and Friday of this week. Test pumping will take place early next week and this will show how much water the well will be able to produce. The goal is 70 gallons per minute. Francisco asked if it would be worth re-routing the water and electric lines in order to drill right over the 10-foot sand layer. Meyer did not feel that would be worth the addition costs seeing as it's still so close and the layers are most certainly connected. Meyer also had an update for the Council on the Local Road Improvement Program grant application. The Itasca County Board will be approving acting as the fiscal agent for the application at their next meeting. A resolution is needed from the City Council before the application can be submitted. ***Motion to adopt Resolution 2017-09 by E. Storlie, seconded by Francisco, MCU.***

**2017-2018 Snowplowing Contract Clarification:** Zimmer stated that there is some confusion between the Public Works Department and Powell Excavating regarding who is supposed to be plowing what. It was determined that Powell would do the primary plowing on the main roads with the Public Works department doing clean-up of these roads between snows as well as the side roads, airport and cemetery.

***Motion by Francisco, seconded by E. Storlie to approve a vacation request for City Clerk Angie Storlie for November 16 and 17, MCU.***

**Winter Recreation Event:** Francisco reported has had numerous people ask him about the winter event. The first planning meeting will be Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Pifher adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Angela L. Storlie  
*City Clerk/Treasurer*

Approved at the regular meeting held on  
December 12, 2017

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*Mayor*