

## City of Bigfork

### Work Session & Regular City Council Meeting September 8, 2015 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Amy Pifher, Randy Nei and Andrew Francisco

**Members Absent:** Peter Johnson and Eric Storlie

**Also Present:** Gus David, Joe Zimmer, Warren & Caroline Welch, Curt Meyer

Mayor Pifher called the work session to order at 7:00 p.m. Pifher noted additions to the agenda including Resolution 2015-11, road repair bids, and contribution to Main Street flowers. Pifher closed the work session and opened the regular meeting at 7:13 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Pifher opened the public forum. Caroline Welch had concerns about individuals obtaining bulk water from the RV station rather than through City Hall. Public Works Lead Joe Zimmer noted that he has talked to one individual about the proper way to purchase bulk water from the City. The Council agreed that the City should keep an eye on this. Mayor Pifher thanked Nin and Gene Madsen for their work with the Main Street flowers and for repainting the airport entrance sign. As no one else from the public wished to address the Council, the public forum was closed.

***Motion by Nei to approve the agenda as amended during the work session, seconded by Francisco, motion carried unanimously (MCU).***

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

- 1. minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> regular City Council meeting,***
- 2. City Clerk's office report for August 2015,***
- 3. Financial reports for August 2015,***
- 4. Public Works Department report for August 2015,***
- 5. payroll and timecards for August 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> paydays in the amount of \$6,244.37***
- 6. claims paid in the amount of \$6,109.35 and claims for payment in the amount of \$17,807.01***

**Results of August 11, 2015 Closed Meeting:** Pifher reported that at the closed meeting of August 11, 2015, a performance review of Aaron Gould was conducted. Gould earned favorable rankings on his review.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**WSN – Water Study:** Curt Meyer from Widseth, Smith & Nolting was present to update the Council on the recommendations from their study. Based on their study, they feel the best

location for a new backup well is just south of the existing well. They did not find a more favorable location due to the added cost of pumping water from a distant aquifer to the water treatment plant. They estimate a new well in the same aquifer should be able to output 80 to 100 gallons per minute which would be sufficient for the City's needs. WSN will be requesting further information from Thein Well in order to prepare a cost estimate. Meyer stated that any repairs or improvements needed in the water treatment plant should be included in the cost estimate. Zimmer noted that he would like to look into converting from gas to liquid chlorine. There was concern expressed about the wisdom of drilling again in the same aquifer and Meyer explained that it is a proven aquifer and, though there are four wells in the area already and only one is operational, well #3 did produce sufficiently right up until it was sealed, so planning to drill again to replace that well is a reasonable solution. The full study and cost recommendation will be presented at the October Council meeting.

**Public Works Vehicle:** Zimmer has been working with Powell Auto Sales on locating an appropriate vehicle. He asked the Council's permission to purchase a vehicle as soon as one can be found. The Council felt that Zimmer should check online auction sites to try to find a better deal. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to authorize Zimmer and the Public Works Commissioners to purchase a vehicle, with a plow, up to a total cost of \$13,000-\$15,000, MCU.***

**Resolution 2015-10:** As directed at the August meeting, the City Clerk prepared the 2016 budget and tax levy based on a 2% levy increase. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to approve Resolution 2015-10 setting the preliminary 2016 budget and levy, MCU.***

**Resolution 2015-11:** This resolution authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to sign a joint powers agreement with the State of Minnesota, on behalf of prosecuting attorney John Dimich, for access to the State's criminal justice data communications network. This agreement is necessary for Dimich to continue serving as the City's prosecuting attorney. ***Motion by Nei, seconded by Francisco to approve Resolution 2015-11, MCU.***

**2015/2016 Plowing/Grading Bids:** Sealed bids were received from Powell Excavating & Tree Service, Gus David and T&T Excavating. Upon opening and reviewing all bids, the following actions were taken:

***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to accept the street snowplowing bid from Gus David in the amount of \$250 (for 2" to 8" of snowfall)/\$300 (for 8" of snowfall and up) for Ottum Ave, Rajala Rd, River St, Ash St, Division Ave and Salmi Blvd, for the 2015/2016 plowing season, MCU.***

***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to accept the airport snowplowing bids from Powell Excavating & Tree Service in the amounts of \$950 per time (for snow removal around runway lights) and \$285 per time (for airport road and parking lot) for the 2015/2016 plowing season, MCU.***

***Motion by Nei, seconded by Francisco to accept the road grading bid from Powell Excavating & Tree Service in the amount of \$265 per time (to be done twice per month) for Ottum Ave, River St, Ash St, Division Ave, Salmi Blvd and the airport road, for the 2015/2016 grading season, MCU.***

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Planning Commission Vacancy:** Ann McGarry has resigned from the Planning & Zoning Commission. Any resident or property owner of the City of Bigfork interested in filling this vacancy should contact the City Clerk's Office. The Council expressed their thanks to Ann for her 12 years of service on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

**RFP for Legal Services:** A letter of resignation was received from City Attorney John Licke. The Clerk prepared a Request for Proposal to solicit a new attorney, as well as a list of attorneys in the area who do municipal work. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to approve the RFP and direct the Clerk to solicit by direct mail to area municipal attorneys, MCU.***

**Disposal of Excess/Obsolete Equipment:** The Clerk requested permission to donate unneeded items to the Bigfork Bank Boosters who will be holding a rummage sale at City Hall on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Permission was granted.

**Personnel Policy Update – Time Clock Policy:** The Clerk presented proposed updates to the time clock policy to reflect the use of the biometric time clock system. ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to approve the amendment to the time clock section of the personnel policy, MCU***

**Minnesota Flouridation Law Variance Request:** The Minnesota Department of Health is recommending that all municipal public water systems submit a request for a variance to Minnesota Rule 4720.0030. The variance would allow the City to maintain an average fluoride concentration of 0.7 mg/L in the municipal water supply. ***Motion by Nei, seconded by Francisco to submit the variance request, MCU.***

**Road Repair Bid:** A bid was received from Powell Excavating & Tree Service for spreading, leveling and compacting recycled asphalt on Salmi Blvd and E Ottum Ave. This could be paid for using the Small Cities Assistance funds discussed at the August meeting. ***Motion by Pifher, seconded by Francisco to accept the bid from Powell Excavating & Tree Service in the amount of \$5,800 for Salmi Blvd, MCU.*** The Council directed Zimmer to have Powell Excavating extend the project to the intersection of Hwy 38 at the same price per foot.

**Contribution to Main Street Flowers:** ***Motion by Francisco, seconded by Nei to reimburse Nin and Gene Madsen \$150.00 for Main Street flowers, MCU.***

***Motion by Nei to adjourn at 8:35 p.m., seconded by Francisco, MCU.***

Angela L. Storlie  
City Clerk/Treasurer