

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Doug Schmitz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Doug Schmitz and Council Members Fran Ramler, Jan Dingmann, Dave Stadther and Bob Thelen. Others present: Paul Hetland, Christi Hoffman, Brian Lintgen, Paul Hoeschen, Craig Kritzeck, Dave Heinen, Eric Boucher, Sarah Boucher, Dave Unze, Betsy Lund, Frank Ross and Angie Mueller.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY STADTHER, SECONDED BY DINGMANN, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE MARCH 11, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – February 26, 2014

MOTION WAS MADE BY DINGMANN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. PH Meter Request

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF AN ONLINE PH METER FROM SERVOCAL INSTRUMENTS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,590; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FROM LINE ITEM 14-70-72-6311. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Freezing Water and Sewer Pipes

Hoeschen explained to date there have been 34 water line freeze ups and 4 frozen sewer lines. He reminded residents that although there are warmer temperatures outside the frost is still deep in the ground and can freeze the water service lines.

C. Well Update

Hoeschen stated that a meeting was recently held with officials from the City, Department of Natural Resources, Cold Spring Brewing Company, St. Cloud Development Group and area legislators. He stated that the meeting was overall positive with the DNR now being more understanding of the challenges being faced and that the deadline of December 2014 is unachievable. He stated the DNR is willing to extend the Brewery's water drawing permit but a new deadline has not been established until more information is known. Hoeschen added that he would like to extend the contract with SEH for engineering assistance with locating a new well. He requested a \$5,000 contract extension since several potential locations have not been suitable and additional help is still needed in determining a future well site.

MOTION WAS MADE BY DINGMANN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH SEH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000 FOR ENGINEERING ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING A NEW WELL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

Lintgen explained that the bid opening for the Co Rd 50 has been moved back a day at the County's request. He added that the school district will consider approval of the easements at their second meeting in March.

APPROVE PAGER PURCHASE

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THREE PAGERS FROM GRANITE ELECTRONICS AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$1,800; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FOR FROM DONATIONS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY DINGMANN, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$92,256.36 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$26,160.45 PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Councilor Dingmann stated that during the discussion the previous evening, the sequence of events of offering a position to Eric Johnson and approving a contract with Eric Johnson were brought into question. She stated that at the January 29th meeting the Council approved the recommendation given by the selection committee for hiring Eric Johnson for the Chief position. She stated at the next meeting on February 11th the approval of a contract with Eric Johnson was removed from the agenda. At the next meeting on February 26th, the Council voted on offering the position of Chief of Police to Eric Johnson. She stated that at the February 26th meeting the Council should have went back to the original sequence of events, to the recommended motion that was pulled from the February 11th meeting, which was offering a contract to Eric Johnson.

MOTION WAS MADE BY DINGMANN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH ERIC JOHNSON FOR THE CHIEF OF POLICE, AS NEGOTIATED BY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR AS DIRECTED BY THE SELECTION COMMITTEE. MOTION FAILED 2-2, WITH DINGMANN AND SCHMITZ VOTING IN FAVOR, RAMLER AND THELEN IN OPPOSITION AND STADTHER ABSTAINING DUE TO A CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

The Council then discussed the possibility of this same topic being brought up for approval at a future meeting. The Council agreed that they would want all members of the Council to be present to vote on future motions on this topic.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO ADJOURN AT 7:03 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Doug Schmitz, Mayor

Paul Hetland, City Administrator