

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 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, Brian Lintgen, Paul Hoeschen, Chad Kraemer, Eric Boucher, Dan Steil, Nancy Heinzen, Gary Grossinger, Betsy Lund, Frank Ross, Ashli Gerdes, Bonnie Juergens, and Angie Mueller.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY DINGMANN, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE MAY 13, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – April 23, 2014

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 23, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. One-Day Bingo License, Cold Spring Home Pride Lions

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE FORM LG240B APPLICATION TO CONDUCT EXCLUDED BINGO FOR THE COLD SPRING HOME PRIDE LIONS FOR BINGO TO BE HELD FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014 AT THE 200 BLK OF MAIN STREET DURING HOME TOWN PRIDE DAYS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

C. Approvals for American Legion Post 455 for 2014, Resolution 2014-08

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2014-08, A RESOLUTION GRANTING CERTAIN APPROVALS FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 455 FOR EVENTS TO BE HELD IN 2014. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

D. Approve Off-Premises Liquor License for American Legion Post 455

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE AN OFF-PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE TO AMERICAN LEGION POST 455 TO SERVE ALCOHOL AT THE OLD GLORY RUN BEING HELD AT THE COLD SPRING BASEBALL PARK ON SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014, CONTINGENT ON THEM PROVIDING LIQUOR LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR THEMSELVES COVERING THIS EVENT AT THIS LOCATION. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION HEARING

Nancy Heinzen and Gary Grossinger from the Stearns County Assessor's Office were present for the hearing which was opened at 6:32 p.m. Heinzen stated that for residential properties there were no valuation changes due to them already meeting the required ratio. Grossinger stated that the commercial values received a slight increase of one to one and a half percent. Mayor Schmitz called three times for those wishing to speak at the hearing, and there were none. The hearing was recessed at 6:33 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:07 p.m., seeing as there was no one who wanted to speak at the hearing it was closed at 7:08 p.m.

COLD SPRING BUSINESS PARK LOT SALE

EDA President Dan Steil stated that they had received a letter of intent from Jake Scepaniak to purchase a lot in the Business Park. Steil stated that the proposed cost is at a dollar per square foot for a total of \$37,701. Scepaniak plans to construct a mini storage business consisting of two buildings which would have a total of 60 units of varying sizes. Steil stated that the EDA is recommending approval of the lot sale with the contingency that the project meet all the covenants of the development.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO APPROVE THE SALE OF A LOT IN THE BUSINESS PARK TO JAKE SCEPANIAC AT A COST OF \$37,701, CONTINGENT UPON THE PROJECT MEETING THE COVENANTS OF THE BUSINESS PARK DEVELOPMENT. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

COLD SPRING CHIEF OF POLICE DECISION

Hetland stated that Chris Boucher is interested in carrying on in the Chief of Police position for a one year period. Hetland stated that details will still need to be worked out on the contract since the Chief isn't typically the K9 handler and participate in working Towards Zero Deaths shifts. He added that salary would also need to be determined. Hetland recommended a "just cause" contract and that it be for a one year period. Dingmann inquired whether the Council was able to offer the position to someone else without first having the Eric Johnson matter resolved and what the advantage is of making a full time appointment versus interim. Hetland stated that the Eric Johnson matter is separate from this decision and that the Council is able make a decision on the position. He added that by making a decision it provides a timeframe for

Chris Boucher, provides stability to the department, shows the public that the City is moving on, and provides the Council with time to let the dust settle and decide if the appointment should be permanent.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO APPROVE CHRIS BOUCHER AS THE CHIEF OF POLICE FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD. MOTION PASSED 4-1. DINGMANN OPPOSED.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Approve of Hiring of Zack Hinkemeyer

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF ZACK HINKEMEYER AT A PAY RATE OF \$7.50 AS PART-TIME SEASONAL PARKS EMPLOYEE. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Update on Freezing Water and Sewer Pipes

Hoeschen stated that a newsletter was sent to residents to let them know that it is safe to stop running their water. He added on May 5th and 8th, the last two frozen pipes thawed naturally.

C. Update on Well

Hoeschen stated that the wells drilled on the Molitor property do not provide enough capacity for a City well. He stated that the Department of Natural Resources has offered to provide more assistance with looking for a new well by allowing the City to consult them before drilling the next test wells.

D. Award from Pheasants Forever

Hoeschen explained that the City was given an award for being an outstanding water conservationist in Stearns County. He explained that the award was given based on the many activities that the City conducts to provide wellhead protection by reducing the level of nitrates in the four primary wells. He added that there is \$6,000 budgeted for wellhead protection and an additional \$1,000 budgeted in miscellaneous funds, which he requested approval to spend for continuing tasks related to nitrogen reduction. He added that the MN Department of Health will provide 50% reimbursement for the money spent on these tasks.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY THELEN, TO SPEND \$7,000 ON NITROGEN REDUCTION EFFORTS TO PROVIDE WELLHEAD PROTECTION. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. CSAH 50 Reconstruction Project

Lintgen explained that the contracts have all been signed and that the project is scheduled to begin on June 2nd.

B. 2nd Avenue Feasibility Report

Lintgen presented the 2nd Avenue Feasibility Report to the Council. He explained that the assessment amounts for the project are quite high due to a fair amount of the land not being assessable such as the right away and trail property. He stated that there seems to be a greater benefit to the businesses in the area and the City as a whole, not just the adjacent properties that would be receiving the assessments. He offered other alternatives to the assessment policy, but the Council directed that the assessment policy be followed for the proposed assessments for the improvement hearing on June 10th.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THELEN, SECONDED BY DINGMANN, TO APPROVE THE FEASIBILITY REPORT FOR 2ND AVENUE AND SET THE IMPROVEMENT HEARING FOR JUNE 10, 2014. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Councilor Bob Thelen stated that the Planning Commission has discussed that with the connection of 14th Avenue South to State Highway 23 later this year that there will be a need for a connection from the west end of town to the area of the Rocori Schools. The Planning Commission had discussed areas of growth and future annexation plans and identified this area as Growth Area 1. The area of land would be to the north and west of CSAH 50 and between the Rocori School property and North Pointe development. Councilor Thelen suggested that the Council direct Hetland to begin the process to get these parcels annexed into the City and set up a taxing district for agricultural land.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THELEN, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO APPROVE HETLAND TO START THE PROCESS TO ANNEX GROWTH AREA 1. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY DINGMANN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$115,243.11 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$37,018.46 PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY THELEN, SECONDED BY STADTHER, TO ADJOURN AT 7:49 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Doug Schmitz, Mayor

Paul Hetland, City Administrator