

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
AUGUST 8, 2017
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

ROLL CALL

- Council Members present: John Ries, Dennis Terrell, Clete Frederick, and Mayor Brianna Anderson.
- Council Members absent: Ryan Short
- Staff present: City Administrator Brad Potter, Public Works Director Rick Reinbold, and Deputy Clerk Kerry Rausch.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Council Member Frederick moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, and Mayor Anderson voting in favor.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Frederick, to approve the July 10 and July 24, 2017 City Council meeting minutes. The motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, and Mayor Anderson voting in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Council Member Frederick asked to pull check 40024 to Brad and Christina Treat to be pulled for further discussion. Mr. Potter stated he had communicated with council members to add a clause, upon recommendations from the city attorney, language to hold harmless.
- Council Member Frederick moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, and Mayor Anderson voting in favor.

PRESENTATION:

- Les Westberg, Public Works employee, was recognized for this volunteer work in the Adventure Park which included the construction and donation of the truck and eagle display. A plaque will be installed on the truck to recognize Mr. Westberg's contribution.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Chapter 6 Exterior Storage Surface

- Mr. Potter met with the police chief and is looking for council input to amending chapter 6 of city code to allow 12 foot and smaller trailers to be parked grass.
- Council discussion included we enforce ordinance as written, small trailers on grass would be acceptable, to how far should government control how residents use their property.
- A proposed ordinance change will be brought back to the council for a vote.

2. Chapter 8 Water Service Rates – Unpaid Utility Bills

- Proposed amendment to section 8.050 would include the deletion of "All past due accounts shall be sent a disconnection notice indicating the amount past due with the late fee charge applied." In subdivision 1. And to add to subdivision 2 "to pay past due and delinquent charges in full. If past due and delinquent charges are..." These changes would promote paying of all past due charges in full.
- The public hearing was opened and closed with no comments being taken.
- Council Member Frederick moved to approve the proposed ordinance change with the addition of "the end of the business day on the 25th of each month...", seconded by Council Member Ries. A

roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, and Mayor Anderson voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

1. City Lot for Sale – Daschner Possible Purchase

- Ben and Kim Daschner are preparing building plans for a retail/office space which would be similar in size to their existing building. They will bring to forward when completed.
- Council cautioned to include in any plans that construction must begin within 12 months.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2018 Budget Discussion

- LGA is going up slightly for 2018. 80% of budget is set with wages, capital outlay and benefits.
- In looking at the deputy clerk position we use a lot of subcontractors. To have a coordinator of that position would be good to have. Look at doing more utility billing payments online. If we can do those things no need for a city administrator position. There are good consultants in place for sewer agreement. The deputy clerk position could take over and be more of a coordinator position.
- This would result in lower health care amounts.
- Brad offered his resignation effective August 22, 2017 which will be his last day.
- Things out of city's control is long term debt \$5.5 M and the associated interest. Long Term maintenance costs cannot be deviated from. Need to figure most effective way to deliver services to residents.
- As a result of reviewing job descriptions a meeting was held with Clifton, Larson and Allen who submitted an informal estimate of costs to outsource accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and utility billing.
- Mr. Potter proposed the Deputy Clerk position be combined with city administrator duties to become a community coordinator position with more city services from all departments being contracted out.
- Council Member Ries feels any savings would be a floating number and city loses control of the costs. He wants a person in the office with authority, a city administrator.
- Mr. Potter was asked why he is resigning. He stated it is time for him to move on and that he wants to do different things in the future.
- Council Member Terrell stated he feels this proposed plan is a step backwards.
- Council Member Frederick is on the fence with the proposed plan and can see both sides. Would like to take time to look into this. In his business they may contract out an entire job but they still need someone to oversee the day to day issues.
- Council Member Ries and Council Member Terrell stated they could see shared services for police and fire as a possibility but is not interested in exploring this concept any further.
- Mayor Anderson stated this is an interesting plan and that as a council they should look at the possibilities or maybe doing a little bit of both. They should look at areas to consolidate and look at other ways to save money to limit the city's dependency on LGA. She encouraged the council to entertain the idea to look into this without committing to making any changes. As a council they are required to do the best they can for the city and owe it to the residents to save money. Need to look at this to be able to make the best decision for the city.
- Mr. Potter indicated he has a three year budget set up under the traditional budgeting process.
- Mayor Anderson stated she believes the council needs to be more aware of and supportive of the staff and the work they do. The council needs to be more present and aware of the work they do.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- Sewer bids for Mankato are due September 1, 2017. Eagle Lake's Council will need to accept or reject project as bid.

COUCNIL MEMBER'S UPDATE

- Monday, August 14, 2017 there will be a budget meeting and determine details of posting for the City Administrator position and interim plan.

ADJOURNMENT

- Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried with Council Members Terrell, Frederick, Short and Mayor Anderson voting in favor.

Brianna Anderson, Mayor

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk