

**CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
DECEMBER 3, 2018
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Auringer 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, Ryan Short, and Mayor Tim Auringer.
- Staff present: City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland, Public Works Director Brian Goettl, Police Chief John Kopp, and Deputy Clerk Kerry Rausch.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Resignation of Lester Westberg was added to the agenda under new business.
- Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Council Member Short moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to approve the November 5, 2018 City Council minutes. The motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Council Member Ries asked to discuss the issues with the 2015 squad car. Chief Kopp explained the issues and two options for repairs and stated he would like to try the less expensive option first. This vehicle is scheduled to be replaced in 2019.
- Also included in the consent agenda is the approval of add Aran Augustine to the Fire Department Reserves.
- Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

PRESENTATION

1. Water and Sanitary Sewer Rate Analysis – Shannon Sweeney
 - Mr. Sweeney with David Drown and Associates presented findings from his water and sewer rate study.
 - Study results included that sewer rates are sufficient to support operations and existing debt service of that utility and no changes are presently recommended.
 - Water rate study took into consideration the proposed water main looping projects for 2019, 598th Avenue (\$400,000), Maple Lane (\$152,000) along with water tower rehabilitation (\$500,000). Based on historical revenue and operating costs and debt service he proposed a rate increase from \$24.85 per month for 5,000 gallons to approximately \$31.30 per month for 5,000 gallons. If proposed projects are not done, he would recommend water rates increase to \$27.00 per month for 5,000 gallons. It was also recommended that water base fee in increased by \$0.40 per month.
 - Mr. Sweeney also indicated that best bid prices for projects would be best if received before April to obtain best pricing.

- Council discussion included water clarity issues. Mayor Auringer suggested an agitator be explored when the internal work on the water tower takes place in 2019.
- 2. Redevelopment TIG District for 301 and 305 Parkway Avenue – Shannon Sweeney
 - Mr. Sweeney presented Resolution 2018-35, a resolution finding the structures located at 301 and 305 Parkway Avenue as substandard and declaring the City's intent to request certification for a redevelopment Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District within three years of demolition. The passing of this resolution would not obligate the city in any way.
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 - Council Member Frederick moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to approve Resolution 2018-35 and authorizing the general fund to be reimbursed up to \$300,000. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Truth- In Taxation Hearing for 2018 Property Taxes Collectible in 2019
 - Administrator Bromeland presented Resolution 2018-34, A Resolution Setting the Fiscal Year 2019 Final Property Tax Levy as follows: \$509,473 for the general fund, \$41,000 for the EDA, and \$151,942 for debt services for a total of \$702,415.
 - This is a 12.5% increase and would only affect properties if there is a valuation increase.
 - The public hearing was opened and closed with no comments being offered.
 - Council Member Frederick moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to approve Resolution 2018-34, setting the 2019 property tax levy at \$702,415. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2018-34 – A resolution Setting the Final Tax Levy Collected in 2019
 - Item address under public hearings.
2. Resolution 2018-35 – A resolution finding structures to be Substandard, Declaring the City's intent to request certification for a redevelopment TIF District.
 - Item addressed under presentations.
3. Bids to Demolish Structures at 301 and 305 Parkway Avenue
 - Dirt Merchants' bid was the low bid at \$36,897 to demolish structures on both properties and could start in 2018. Abatement will be done first which was included in the bid.
 - Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to accept the bid from Dirt Merchants to demolish 301 and 305 Parkway Avenue. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
4. Updated Municipality Routine CSAH Maintenance Agreement with Blue Earth County
 - Administrator Bromeland stated the new contract would increase the city's annual reimbursement from \$600 to \$2,260.93 and that the agreement would be reviewed every five years going forward.
 - Council asked that Administrator Bromeland clarify language in the agreement to ensure that Blue Earth County would still be responsible for road maintenance.
5. Mobile Home Owner Follow-Up 118 Country Manor
 - Administrator Bromeland has been in contact with Building Inspector Dan Murphy who created a list of items to be completed 7 days from November 29, 2018 for the property at 118 Country Manor. Park manager is aware of the situation.
 - Council discussion included the need to turn issue over to city attorney is siding is not installed.
 - Also discussed is the need to set up a meeting with the park manager to discuss cleaning up of garbage in the park and the need to be aggressive.
6. Audit Proposals
 - Administrator Bromeland stated she and Ms. Rausch have met with two auditing firms and recommended the city remain with Eide Bailly. There are able to reduce fees by \$1500.

- Council Member Short moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to accept Eide Bailly's auditing proposal. Motion carried with Council Members Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor. Council Member Ries voted in opposition.
7. Auto and Property Insurance Premium Options and Bond Coverage Costs
 - Administrator Bromeland stated that the vehicle deductible has been lowered from \$2,500 to \$500. Property and Casualty insurance premium would increase by \$1,500 a year by lowering the deductible from \$2500 to \$500.
 - Council discussion included wanting more information on who is covered.
 - Council Member Ries stated he is in favor of leaving deductible at \$2,500 believing that with a lower deductible more claims would be submitted and thus increase the premium.
 - Council Member Frederick moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell to table until the January 2019 meeting to allow for more information to be obtained. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
 8. 2019 Blue Earth County Soil and Water Conservation Tree Program
 - Council discussion included the desire to see the city purchase trees to replenish those that have been lost in the parks. Public Works Director stated he would like to see 2-inch diameter trees purchased for this purpose.
 - Council consensus was to forego this program in 2019.
 9. Miscellaneous Fire Department Items
 - a. Thermal Imaging Camera Quote: Quote presented was Emergency Response Solutions in the amount of \$7,611.49 which would be ordered in 2018 but paid for in 2019. Council consensus is that to avoid conflict of interest claims multiple quotes must be received, especially when one of the quotes is from the Fire Chief's employer.
 - b. Carry over of unused funds: Chief Ruschmeyer has requested to carry over \$7,000 from 2018's unused funds which would be transferred to capital outlay for 2019. Council consensus was that they do not want to carry funds over, but rather have departments budget appropriately.
 10. Resignation of Leslie Westberg
 - Administrator Bromeland stated that Leslie Westberg, a part-time Public Works employee, gave his verbal resignation today.
 - Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Frederick, to accept the resignation of Leslie Westberg. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
 - Mayor Auringer moved, seconded by Council Member Terrell, to authorize the hiring of a new part-time public works employee. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

1. The city will be participating in Blue Earth County's Christmas Light Recycling Program. Information will be sent out to residents.
2. Administrator Bromeland and Fire Chief will be meeting with Mankato and LeRay Townships on Monday, November 10, 2018.
3. Administrator Bromeland stated she attended the Long-Range MAPS District Planning Committee Meeting.
4. Brian Sarff with Bolton and Menk stated he is working with Blue Earth County on how best to fill the old force main. More access points have been identified. The line will be filled sometime after winter.
5. A Holiday Lighting Contest will be sponsored by SPX Sports. The Park Board will judge entries.
6. Blue Earth County will keep the city updated regarding their public hearing for Blue Earth County's Land Use Plan.

COUCNIL MEMBER'S UPDATE

1. Mayor Auringer asked that city staff work with Xcel to find a way for the city to hand our holiday lights in 2019. Public Works Director Goettl stated the possibility of installing decorative polls in the future that could be used for this purpose.

ADJOURNMENT

- Council Member Terrell moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Terrell, Frederick, Short, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

Tim Auringer, Mayor

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES