

TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, Council Chambers

Monday, February 10, 2020 - 7:00 pm

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at City Hall, the Post Office, and on the City's website. Copies were emailed to residents requesting such, and the Press was notified.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was recited.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Mike Buchite, Larry Julik-Heine, Mary Murphy, John Tangen

Members Absent: Ross Rivard

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer), Jacob Guzik (Engineer, Bolten & Menk), Denise Martin (Chisago County Press), Geri Aanonsen

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to approve the Agenda as presented for the Monday, February 10, 2020 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Murphy / Tangen to approve/accept the following Consent Agenda items: Minutes from previous meetings; Staff reports; Consider Shade Tree Training for the Public Works Superintendent; Commission, Board, or Committee minutes/reports; Consider Resolution 20-02-01 appointing Election Judges and setting payrates; Consider application from the Lions Club for Bingo; Consider payment to Baribeau to exchange the skidsteer; Approval of claims and payroll; and Correspondence. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM - None

STAFF REQUESTS

Consider Shade Tree Training for the Public Works Superintendent

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz to attend the Minnesota Shade Tree Short Course hosted by Bethel College in Arden Hills on March 17 - 18, 2020 at a cost of \$225.00.

COMMISSION, BOARD, OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Consider FEMA Grant for new radios for Fire Department

Mary Murphy explained that the cities of Chisago County would like to apply together for a FEMA grant to fund the purchase of new radios. They would like to contract with a grant writer to write the application at a cost of \$1,300.00. It is estimated that the share of the cost for Taylors Falls would be around \$100.00. Larry Julik-Heine asked how easy it is to get FEMA money. Mary explained that it is hard but financially worth it. She brought out that there is a better chance of getting the grant if the cities apply together. Discussion followed.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Tangen to approve designating up to \$100.00 from the Fire Department new equipment fund to reimburse North Branch for the City's share of the cost of the grant writer for the FEMA radio grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider submission of CLG/Legacy Grant for HPC design guidelines

Coordinator-Zoning Administrator Steve Heth provided an agenda report for background. The Heritage Preservation Commission is seeking to establish new design guidelines and the estimated cost is \$20,000.00. The Certified Local Government (CLG) grant for \$12,000.00 can be used for this purpose, but it has a minimum 40% match. The Legacy grant for \$8,000.00 can be used to cover the needed match for the CLG grant. The HPC is recommending resubmitting applications for both grants since the 2018 attempt fell through. In the event that the City is not awarded the Legacy grant, the CLG grant would be turned down. The CLG grant application is due March 6, 2020 and the Legacy grant application is due April 10, 2020. Mayor Buchite explained that the application would be handled by Steve Heth. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Tangen to approve submitting applications for both the CLG and Legacy grants for the purpose of establishing design guidelines for the HPC, acknowledging that the required match for the CLG grant will come from the Legacy grant. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consider Resolution 20-02-01 appointing Election Judges and setting payrates

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda Resolution 20-02-01 appointing 2020 Election Workers. Election Judges will be paid \$10.00 per hour; Head Election Judges will be paid \$11.00 per hour; and the Election Administrator will be paid \$11.00 per hour as of February 10, 2020.

Consider application from the Lions Club for bingo

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from the Taylors Falls Lions Club to conduct excluded bingo at the Community Center on April 3, 2020.

Consider payment to Baribeau to exchange the skidsteer

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the exchange of the Public Works Department's skid steer at a cost of \$1,000.00 to be paid from the machinery rentals/leases fund (416).

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7750-7760 totaling \$11,913.61; as well as check numbers 30984-31032 and electronic check numbers 6302380 and 6302410-6302424 totaling \$205,210.51 for the previous month's expenditures.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine

- said that Public Works had done a great job plowing. He also mentioned the success of the first Sunday afternoon concert at the Community Center. These concerts are sponsored by the Friends of the Taylors Falls Parks and Recreation Commission. Larry had nothing to report from the Highway 8 Task Force.

John Tangen

- said that the Heritage Preservation Commission would be meeting next Wednesday. The previous meeting was cut short due to the weather. A new member was approved to join, and there is room for more people on the Commission.

Mary Murphy

- mentioned that the Economic Development Commission will be having a meeting soon. She is also negotiating with Shafer Township for the fire contract.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- said that he had the opportunity to ride in the brand new plow truck. It is a very impressive piece of equipment and the Public Works employees are very appreciative of it. He also mentioned that the HPC Secretary Lesli Johnson did an outstanding job with the minutes at the last HPC meeting. He also asked Mary Murphy to thank the new Fire Chief Jake Vodenka-Reed for providing the Council with the monthly report. He met with him and he is very impressed. The Mayor also mentioned that the Auditors were here last week and said good job to Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley. He met with the Auditors for at least an hour and the Audit went very well. The reserves are very strong and the Auditors are very pleased with the management of the City. The Mayor also met with Coordinator-Zoning Administrator Steve Heth about completing the Bench Street fence project, the development of the downtown commercial property, and the installation of bathrooms at Heritage Park. Steve will be meeting with City Engineer Jake Guzik. He also mentioned that Elizabeth has been very busy and has put some good processes into place. The Community Center has been rekeyed and all the keys are accounted for.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this Monday, February 10, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, March 9, 2020