

TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, Council Chambers

Monday, March 9, 2020 - 7:00 pm

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, March 4, 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, Ross Rivard, Larry Julik-Heine, Mary Murphy, John Tangen

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer), Jacob Guzik (Engineer, Bolten & Menk), Jim Stein (Stein Insurance Agency), Lynn Longnecker (Wannigan Days Committee), Pam Longnecker, Sandra Berg (Wannigan Days Committee), Denise Martin (Chisago County Press), Deb Julik-Heine, Barb Anderson, Amanda Oman, Chad Thurman, Andrew Nick, Lisa Nelson

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Buchite pulled item #3 of Staff Requests from the Consent Agenda: Consider raise for Public Works Maintenance worker. Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to approve the amended Agenda for the Monday, March 9, 2020 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The Agenda was followed in this order: New Business items #1, #2, further clarification on #1, #4, #3, #5-7, and Staff Requests item #3.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Rivard / Tangen to approve/accept the following Consent Agenda items: Minutes from previous meetings; Staff reports; Commission, Board, or Committee minutes/reports; Consider training request for Public Works Maintenance Worker; Consider training request for Clerk-Treasurer; Consider Shafer Township fire contract; Consider contract with AEM; Consider 2020 solid waste licenses; Consider setting date for Board of Appeals and Equalization public hearing; Approval of claims and payroll; and Correspondence. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM - None

STAFF REQUESTS

Consider training request for Public Works Maintenance Worker

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz for wastewater training for Public Works Maintenance Worker Paul Stenger at New Ulm, with a cost of \$390.00, not including expenses, to be paid from the sewer training and instruction fund (602-49450-208).

Consider training request for Clerk-Treasurer

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley for year two of Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute at a cost of approximately \$1,160.00 to be paid from the administrative training and instruction fund (101-41400-208).

Consider raise for Public Works Maintenance Worker

Larry Julik-Heine explained that Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz would like Public Works Maintenance Worker Paul Stenger to receive a \$1.00/hour raise effective from his first anniversary last October. The performance review was conducted at that time but a request for a raise was not submitted to the City Council. Mike had said that Paul is doing a fantastic job. Ross Rivard brought out that Paul does a great job, is more than willing to take care of things, learn, and has cleaned up the maintenance buildings. Discussion followed.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Rivard to approve the request from Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz for a retroactive \$1.00 per hour raise for Paul Stenger, to go into effect on the pay period following his one-year anniversary of 10/29/2019. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION, BOARD, OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Consider 2019 Stewardship Award

Mayor Buchite asked the Council if they approved of the choice for the 2019 St. Croix River Valley Stewardship Award. The Council did approve, and the Mayor continued with item #2, the update from the Wannigan Days Committee, as presented by Lynn Longnecker. After Lynn's presentation, Mayor Buchite read aloud the Stewardship Award certificate to let Lynn and the audience know that Lynn was the selection, and photos were taken.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to approve the recommendation from Mayor Buchite to present Lynn Longnecker with 2019 St. Croix Valley Stewardship Award. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider update from Wannigan Days Committee

Lynn Longnecker of the Wannigan Days Committee presented an update to the Council about plans for the 2020 festival. He mentioned beard-growing and pie-eating contests, and a talent show. They plan to have the kiddy parade and kid events up by the Folsom House. Mayor Buchite mentioned that \$1,500.00 was budgeted from the City to be used for Wannigan Days. Larry Julik-Heine brought up that the Bootlegger's Ball was planned to take place with the festival this year. Lynn mentioned the need for more people and that ideas are welcome. Appreciation was expressed by the Mayor and Council. Many members of the Wannigan Days Committee were in attendance.

Consider 2020 insurance policy

Jim Stein presented a report regarding the City's 2020 Insurance Policies with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to accept the report from Jim Stein of Stein Insurance Agency regarding the City's 2020 insurance policies with the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust as well as to approve the fact that the City does not waive its statutory limits regarding insurance coverage. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider request from the Planning Commission for a conditional use permit

Mayor Buchite explained that the Planning Commission held a public hearing in regard to 631 Bench Street for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a Short Term Rental. With no opposition and all questions by the public answered, the PC recommends approval of the request. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the proposed Conditional Use Permit at 631 Bench Street based on the following findings of fact provided by Coordinator-Zoning Administrator Steve Heth. Motion carried unanimously.

1. The Conditional Use Permit is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and development policies of the City.
2. The use will not create an excessive demand on existing parks, schools, streets and other public facilities and utilities which serve or are proposed to serve the area.
3. The use will be sufficiently compatible or separated by distance or screening from adjacent development or land so that existing development will not be depreciated in value and there will not be deterrence to development of vacant land.
4. The structure and site shall have an appearance that will not have an adverse effect upon adjacent properties.
5. The use in the opinion of the City is reasonably related to the overall needs of the City and to the existing land use.
6. The use is consistent with the purposes of the Zoning Ordinance and the purposes of the zoning district in which the applicant intends to locate the proposed use.
7. The use will not cause traffic hazard or congestion.

Consider bid for new security cameras

Mary Murphy explained the bids from Stealth Optimum Security and CWS Security. Although the pricing for four cameras is similar, CWS Security includes a High Definition CCTV Monitor. Discussion followed.

Motion by Tangen / Julik-Heine to approve the bid from CWS Security to install four security cameras at City Hall at a cost of \$2,947.39 to be paid from the general fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider amendment of Resolution 20-01-02 to update Chisago County Sheriff's Office fee

Mayor Buchite explained that Resolution 20-01-02 setting the 2020 Fee Schedule needed to have the Community Center Rental Police Supervision fee revised to \$60.40 to match the 2020 contract with the Chisago County Sheriff's Office.

Motion by Tangen / Julik-Heine to approve the amended version of Resolution 20-01-02 in which the 2020 Community Center Rental Police Supervision fee has been revised to \$60.40 to match the 2020 contract with the Chisago County Sheriff's Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider Resolution 20-03-01 confirming Fire Department Officers

Mayor Buchite and Mary Murphy explained Resolution 20-03-01 - confirming Fire Department Officers, Firefighters, and pay.

Motion by Murphy / Rivard to approve Resolution 20-03-01 confirming the 2020 election of officers, firefighters, and pay. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consider Shafer Township fire contract

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the 2020 Shafer Township fire contract in the amount of \$16,857.50.

Consider contract with AEM

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda a three-year contract with AEM (Abdo Eick & Meyers) for the purpose of answering questions and providing training on an as-needed basis.

Consider 2020 solid waste licenses

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the 2020 Taylors Falls Solid Waste Permits for the following companies contingent on receiving applications and certificates of insurance: Croix Valley Pick-up of Chisago City, MN; SRC dba Town & Country Disposal of Wyoming, MN; Waste Management of Northern Wisconsin of Somerset, WI; Dem-Con Companies LLC of Shakopee, MN; Shafer Rolloff LLC of Chisago City, MN; and Chisago Lakes Sanitation LLC of Chisago City, MN.

Consider setting date for Board of Appeals and Equalization Public Hearing

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from Chisago County Assessor's Office to set the date for the Board of Appeal and Equalization at Taylors Falls City Hall Council Chambers on April 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7762-7770 totaling \$11,529.67; as well as check numbers 31033-31062 and electronic check numbers 6302425-6302430 totaling \$19,249.62 for the previous month's expenditures.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

City Engineer Jake Guzik

- explained that road restrictions were in place as of last Friday. He will be working with Coordinator-Zoning Administrator Steve Heth regarding drainage at the downtown commercial property.

Mary Murphy

- said that Jake Guzik had spoken with Economic Development Commission at their meeting last week. She mentioned that there is a Wannigan Days Committee meeting tomorrow.

Ross Rivard

- said that he missed the Planning Commission meeting on Monday. He mentioned that Public Works was doing a good job.

John Tangen

- said there will be an Heritage Preservation Commission meeting on Wednesday and that Steve Heth had done a wonderful and timely job of submitting the first half of the grant application. There is still an opening for HPC members.

Larry Julik-Heine

- said that the Parks and Recreation Commission hasn't yet met. The concert series cosponsored by the Friends of the Taylors Falls Parks has been very successful, and that they donated a new coffee maker to the Community Center.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- said that Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz was awarded a Wastewater Award for the quality of the City's sewer ponds. He brought out that three of the commissions are up and running for the year and after the fourth one meets, he would like to schedule a quarterly meeting with the four chairs. He mentioned that Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley would be attending year two of the Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute in May and complimented her for doing a great job.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this Monday, March 9, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, May 11, 2020