

MINUTES
TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Hall, Council Chambers
Thursday, November 12, 2020

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer), Troy Aanonsen, Jacob Vodenka-Reed (Fire Chief), Geri Aanonsen

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to approve the Agenda as presented for the Thursday, November 12, 2020 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL 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; Approval of claims and payroll; Correspondence.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

Geri Aanonsen had turned in a Public Forum card before the meeting with the subject marked as: Lighting Festival - City Park. Geri spoke at length about various events planned for the Lighting Festival. The Council listened. At the end of the City Council meeting, Mayor Buchite explained that all gatherings over 10 people were prohibited by the recent Governor's order and that the decision regarding Lighting Festival events is up to the Lighting Festival Committee and not the City Council. The City is not liable for anything the Lighting Festival does - all liability lies with the members of the Lighting Festival Committee.

STAFF REQUESTS

COMMISSION, BOARD, OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Consider canvass of election results

Mayor Buchite described the election results - Mayor Buchite had run unopposed and would begin another term in 2021. Council Member Julik-Heine had been re-elected, and Troy Aanonsen would become a Council Member in 2021.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to approve the adoption of resolution 20-11-01 certifying results of the November 3, 2020 General Election. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider update and requests regarding Covid CARES Act allocation expenditures

Mayor Buchite gave an update on the expenditures made with the CARES Act allocation. He commended Clerk-Treasurer Nealley and Fire Chief Vodenka-Reed for their work on the documentation.

Consider request from Library Board for pay increase for City Librarian

Library Board president Roger Boleman requested a \$1.00 per hour raise for Librarian Diane Dedon. Discussion followed and it was brought out by everyone on the Council how much she deserved it for all her hard work.

Motion by Murphy / Rivard to approve the request from the Taylors Falls Library Board for a \$1.00 per hour raise for Librarian Diane Dedon to begin 12/01/20. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider recommendation from the HPC regarding the RFP

Council Member Tangen explained the HPC grant and Zoning Administrator Heth's administration of it. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to approve the recommendation from the HPC to accept the proposal from Thomas R. Zahn and Associates. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7869-7885 totaling \$18,000.94; as well as check numbers 31376-31439 and electronic check numbers 6302487-6302495 totaling \$173,237.23 for the previous month's expenditures.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mary Murphy

- said the EDC hasn't met.

Ross Rivard

- said that the Planning Commission had no business, and explained the broken water lines on West Street.

John Tangen

- said that the Heritage Preservation Commission voted on the grant application.

Larry Julik-Heine

- said the PRC hopes to meet next week.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- updated everyone on the Covid situation in our area. An emergency order had been put in place by the Governor limiting gatherings to under 10 people. There will be enforcement. City Health Official Dr. Bill Young asked the Mayor to check with the City Attorney regarding the Lighting Festival. According to the attorney, it is not a City event; the City is not in any way liable for not complying with the Governor's order. However the Lighting Festival Committee is liable. The decision belongs to them. However, Dr. Young recommends the Festival activities be cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this Thursday, November 12, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, December 28, 2020