

MINUTES
TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Hall, Council Chambers
Monday, March 8, 2021

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, March 3, 2021 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, Troy Aanonsen

Members Absent: Ross Rivard

Others Present: Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley, Fire Chief Jacob Vodenka-Reed, Assistant Chief Dan Boyer, John Tangen, Lisa Daniels, Sabyre Daniels, Dr. William Young, Greg and Sonja Miers and family, Denise Martin (Chisago County Press), unknown attendee

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to approve the Agenda as presented for the Monday, March 8, 2021 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Aanonsen / Julik-Heine to approve/accept the following Consent Agenda items: Minutes from previous meetings; Staff reports; Commission, Board, or Committee minutes/reports; Correspondence; as well as the following items:

Claims & payroll

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7950-7961 totaling \$12,120.82; as well as check numbers 31573-31632 and electronic check numbers 6302527-6302529 totaling \$49,346.24 for the previous month's expenditures.

Payment to General Repair Service for \$1,600.00 for repair of lift station

Public Works requested approval by Consent Agenda for payment of \$1,600.00 to General Repair Service for repair of the lift station.

Payment to firefighter Wes McDonald for \$1,945.00 to reimburse for EMT class and skills week

The Fire Department requested approval by Consent Agenda for payment of \$1,945.00 to firefighter Wes McDonald for reimbursement for EMT class and skills week.

Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of the Stewardship Award

Mayor Buchite announced that the 2020 St. Croix River Valley Stewardship Award recipient is former City Council Member John Tangen and asked for comments from the Council. Council Member Julik-Heine said that it was a worthy achievement, and that he had earned every bit of the accolades. Council Member Murphy said that it is absolutely a great dedication. Council Member Aanonsen said that he has known John for five years and that he shows consideration and respect to those in the community even if they have different opinions. The Mayor read the award and then presented it to John Tangen. John will be the 2021 Grand Marshall of Wannigan Days and ride in the Wannigan Days parade. John requested that this honor be shared with the previous recipient of the award, Lynn Longnecker, since the festival was cancelled in 2020. Discussion followed.

Purchase of new rescue truck for the Taylors Falls Fire Department

Council Member Murphy explained that it would be easier to send a rescue truck to emergency medical runs than having to send the big vehicles. The Fire Department said that it would take four to six weeks for delivery. Discussion followed.

Motion by Aanonsen / Julik-Heine to approve the purchase of a new rescue truck for the Taylors Falls Fire Department, at a total cost not to exceed \$62,000.00 to Anderson and Koch Ford Inc for the truck itself and Palmdale Fab LLC for the additional equipment and customization. Motion carried unanimously.

Training request from Clerk-Treasurer

Council Member Murphy explained that Clerk-Treasurer Nealley was requesting to attend year two (of three) of the Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute for her certification. It will be virtual this year, and take place on the first week of May. She explained how training is beneficial for Staff. Council Member Julik-Heine said the training would be beneficial to Clerk-Treasurer Nealley as she continues to do the great job that she does. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Aanonsen to approve the request from Clerk-Treasurer Nealley to attend the virtual year two of the Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute on the the first week of May at a cost of \$450.00. Motion carried unanimously.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council Member Mary Murphy

- said that they were researching the law enforcement contract, and will come up with ideas. She worked with Council Member Aanonsen on the Shafer Township fire contract, and this time it is a two-year contract.

Council Member Larry Julik-Heine

- said that the Park and Recreation Commission was going to meet on March 17th. He mentioned that the Highway 8 task force would be constructing a dedicated left turn lane at Deer Garden Lane in Chisago City.

Council Member Troy Aanonsen

- thanked Council Member Murphy for help with the Shafer Township fire contract. He thanked Fire Chief Vodenka-Reed for the tour of the Fire Hall and his work on the grants. He also mentioned that the Fire Department air packs will be out of commission at the end of the year and need to be replaced.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- said that the Heritage Preservation Commission would meet Wednesday. He also explained that the Swedish Immigrant Trail is limited in being extended to downtown due to the terrain and funding. A trolley service is being discussed by the groups working on the trail. He thanked the HRA EDA for their work helping the businesses in Taylors Falls. \$60,000.00 was distributed to 12 businesses.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this Monday, March 8, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, April 12, 2021