

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BACKUS, CASS COUNTY, MN. OCTOBER 1, 2012 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dwight Heim at 7:02 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Council members present: Mayor Heim, Braker, Thomas, Borst

CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION: A motion was made by Braker and seconded by Thomas to approve the consent agenda. All in favor. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor reported that he toured the Senior Townhomes and was impressed with what he saw. He complimented the tenants for taking such good care of the property. He also reported that the units need painting and there needs to be a dividing wall constructed in the garage of one of the units to replace the current fencing that was installed.

WATER/WASTEWATER REPORT: SEH representative Greg Kimman was present and requested council action to approve the DNR agreement and the payment of the license fees totaling \$31,690 in conjunction with the wastewater project.

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Borst to approve the execution of the DNR agreements and the payment of the license fees in conjunction with the wastewater project. All in favor. Motion carried.

Also introduced was the WIF Matching Grant Resolution of Application and Grant Compliance document necessary for financing the wastewater project.

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Braker to adopt **Resolution 2012-18 WIF Matching Grant Resolution of Application.** All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION: A motion was made by Borst and seconded by Thomas to approve the execution of the Grant Compliance document necessary for financing the wastewater project. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lee Bundy, city water/waste water operator, was present to report that there were about 5 meters left to complete the meter change-out project. Also it was reported that hydrants and sewers were flushed.

PUBLIC FORUM: Joanne Gravelle reported to the council that a tree was down at 205 King Street South and it had knocked down a light pole. The city clerk will call in the damage to Minnesota Power.

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POLICE REPORT: No report.

FIRST RESPONSE: No report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Karl Flier was present to request approval of the sale of the 1989 Ford F-700 fire truck by sealed bid. This truck was replaced by the unit purchased earlier this year. Flier requested that the starting bid be \$1,800. After discussion, the council decided that the starting bid would be \$2,000.

MOTION: A motion was made by Braker and seconded by Borst to approve the sale of the 1989 Ford F-700 fire truck by sealed bid to be opened at the November 5, 2012 council meeting. Last date to submit bids will be October 31, 2012. All in favor. Motion carried.

The council was asked to approve the hiring of Elizabeth Steffen and Zachary McCarty as new members of the fire department.

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Borst to approve the hiring of Elizabeth Steffen and Zachary McCarty as new members of the fire department. All in favor. Motion carried.

STREETS AND PARKS: No report.

AIRPORT: No report.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT: The city clerk requested a motion for clarification of funds transfers in conjunction with the purchase of the new maintenance vehicle. The city would close two CD's for maintenance vehicle and the fund called "New Squad Car".

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Borst to approve the aforementioned clarification of funds. All in favor. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: The city clerk informed the council that there were 3 additional applicants for the maintenance position after running the ad for an addition 2 weeks. One of the applicants was Pine River Area Sanitary District. PRASD proposed amending the current contract the city has with them to include maintenance duties for an approximate additional \$1,300 per month. The city had budgeted approximately \$30,000 for maintenance costs in 2013 and PRASD's initial proposal will be about half the cost. After much discussion, the council decided to have the city clerk meet with Lee Bundy of PRASD to see if they could come to an agreement. The agreement is to be forwarded to council members via email. If the majority is comfortable with moving forward with PRASD, then the city will not conduct applicant interviews. If the agreement is not favorable with the majority of council members, the appointed committee from the last meeting will conduct interviews with applicants.

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It was also reported that upon inspection, the Senior Townhomes are in need of about 5-6" of additional insulation in the attics to meet the recommended amount of insulation for Backus' climate zone.

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Borst to approve the installation of addition insulation for the Senior Townhomes. All in favor. Motion carried.

ZONING: No report.

EDA: No report.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

The council was presented with a quote from Lakes Gas for heating fuel for the townhomes, city hall, and the airport at a rate of \$1.399 per gallon.

MOTION: A motion was made by Braker and seconded by Thomas to approve the contract with Lakes Gas for heating fuel at a rate of \$1.399 per gallon. All in favor. Motion carried.

The city clerk presented the billing from the League of Minnesota Cities Trust for insurance coverage for the city from 9/18/12 to 9/18/13 in the amount of \$11,716.

MOTION: A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Borst to approve the payment of the \$11,716 premium for insurance coverage for the city with the League of Minnesota Cities. All in favor. Motion carried.

MOTION: There being no other business to come before the council, a motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Braker to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Signed: _____
Jeff Turk, City Clerk/Treasurer

Signed: _____
Dwight Heim, Mayor