

City Council Meeting
November 26, 2013

Present: Mayor Rose Hanser, Councilpersons Tom Jankowski, Evan Stewart and Lawretta Miller

Absent: Councilperson John Williams

Also Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Richards, Police Chief Cory Hert, City Attorney Gary Ryder, Public Works Director Bryan Swan, and Building/Planning Official Jan Morgan

Mayor Hanser called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Clerk/Treasurer Richards called the Roll Call.

Consent Agenda:

Councilperson Stewart moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

- a. Minutes of 11/12/13 Regular Meeting
- b. Claims Roster 11/21/13
- c. October Treasurer's Report

Departmental Reports:

Reports were given by Police Chief Hert, Building/Planning Official Morgan, Attorney Ryder, Public Works Director Swan and City Clerk/Treasurer Richards.

Mayor's Communications:

Mayor Hanser reported on information received from the INTERCAP Loan Program as suggested by Councilperson Williams at the previous council meeting. Although the current interest rate is 1%, it is a variable interest rate loan and they indicated the interest rate will be increasing in February 2014. The historic interest rate for this loan program is over 4%.

Public Comment and Participation: None received.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilperson Stewart moved to approve the Encroachment Dead Easement for Lot 2, Block 13 of the Original Townsite. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Stewart moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-R21, declaring surplus equipment and supplies and authorizing its disposal. Councilperson Miller seconded the motion. Discussion: Councilperson Stewart asked about the disposal of the surplus items. City Clerk/Treasurer Richards explained most of the items are non-operational but a couple are still functioning and could be offered for sale or accept bids. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Stewart would like to discuss the pay increase for the Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief further before any council action. He would also like to look at reclassifying the former Police Sergeant position since the position has changed to Assistant Police Chief. He is not against a pay increase for either position. Councilperson Jankowski made a motion to increase the Police Chief's compensation to be the same of the Public Works Director at \$80,000 per year and that the Assistant Police Chief be given a \$15,000 per year raise and that both raises be retroactive to July 1, 2013. Motion died due to lack of a second. Attorney Ryder feels a written resolution should be developed regarding this issue prior to adoption to make it clear. Councilperson Miller agrees a raise is warranted but not sure about the dollar amount suggested by Councilperson Jankowski. She prefers the Mayor's recommendation of a \$2.50 per hour increase now and the issue be looked at again during the budget process for next year's budget. Councilperson Miller moved to increase the compensation for Chief Hert and Assistant Chief Egan \$2.50 per hour effective December 1, 2013 and refer the matter to the Budget Committee for further review and another possible increase in this year's budget. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. Discussion: Attorney Ryder suggested referring another increase to next year's budget instead. Councilperson Stewart still feels it would be better for the Budget Committee or some other committee review this before any increase is implemented. Councilpersons Stewart and Jankowski voted nay. Councilperson Miller voted yes. Motion failed 2-1. Councilperson Stewart moved to put this item to the Budget Committee for further review and discussion. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. Councilperson Miller voted nay. Councilpersons Stewart and Jankowski voted in favor. Motion carried 2-1. The committee will meet December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Mayor Hanser presented an Advancement Plan for the council's consideration regarding the Public Works Department. The plan would be for employees in the department to become Senior Maintenance Worker/Utility Operator, Lead Water Operator or Lead Wastewater Operator and compensate them as they move through the process. Councilperson Jankowski asked if this information has been presented to MEA yet. Mayor Hanser stated it has not. Councilperson Jankowski is fearful that the union might have an issue with this since it is not currently part of their bargaining unit contract. Council members agreed to move forward with consideration of the plan.

Mayor Hanser submitted a draft Capital Improvement Fund forecast. The city hasn't updated their Capital Improvement Plan for several years and it needs updating. Mayor Hanser asked for council's comments or questions. Councilperson Jankowski moved to approve the Capital Improvement Fund Forecast as submitted. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Administrative Matters:

Councilperson Stewart moved to approve the emergency repair of the on-site chlorine generating system at the water treatment plant without going out for bids due to public health concerns. Councilperson Jankowski seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Councilperson Jankowski moved to reschedule the second regular meeting in December to Thursday December 19th at 6:30 p.m. Councilperson Stewart seconded the motion. No discussion or public comment received. Motion carried with all in favor.

Adjournment:

Mayor Hanser adjourned the meeting at 8:23 pm.

Michelle Richards, City Clerk/Treasurer