

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – March 13, 2018;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, March 13, 2018 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Kim Lape, Acting Mayor-Pete Johnson & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal; Absent: Mayor-Mike Baustian, Karen Damman, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen;

Acting Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting to order 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance;

Community Concerns:

The Quartziter Club was inquiring whether the City Council had any opposition to holding ATV Races at the ballfields during the All School Reunion. Insurance quotes from Kozlowski & Peoples Bank have been obtained. The council would like more information from the Quartziter Club regarding the type of track they anticipate having; dirt or flat track, hauling in dirt or digging it up, shape of track, etc. The city did hold ATV and mud truck races previously. Ben Denton has also been contacted regarding this proposal. The council will ultimately take Ben's advice pertaining to the ATV races but would like additional information from the Quartziter Club before issuing a decision;

Motion by Lape, second by Leslie to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on February 13, 2018, all ayes.

Review and approve the February Claims to date: Erik Skogquist, Real Estate Assessment Fee, \$3,000.00; League of MN Cities, Workers Comp Final Audit, \$6,542.00; Rock Co. Highway Department, 15.66 Ton/Sand Mixture, \$469.80; Visa, Amb Training Supplies/Newspaper Subscription/Mailings/Table Covers, \$1,955.48; League of MN Cities Insurance Trust, Worker's Comp '18-'19, \$18,028.00; Core & Main, Meters/Couplings/Plate, \$966.10. A portion of the disbursement to the LMC for Worker's Comp will be reimbursed by Sunrise Village. Motion by Leslie, second by Lape to approve the February claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: Rock Co. Auditor, 1/18 Distribution, \$827.47; E. Baustian, Fire Call, \$990.00; Vast Broadband, 2017 Annual Franchise Fee, \$1,910.03; R. Miller, Hook up Water Service & Reimb. Parts, \$1,399.00; Van Dyke Sanitation, Fuel Surcharge Reimb., \$540.00; Jasper Rural Fire Dept., Reimb. ½ 2017 Fire Dept. Expenses, \$18,607.89;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

The delinquent sewer, water and garbage report was discussed with the council;

WELLNESS CENTER/QCC:

The Wellness Center currently has approximately 120 members. Pricing for a NuStep was presented to the council. Decision was made to table the purchase of a NuStep until the April meeting;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

FYI: The Garretson High School will be replacing all of their weight lifting equipment. The City of Jasper has first choice if we would like anything. Kounkel will verify whether this is an “all or nothing” purchase. The only equipment that the Wellness Center is lacking is a complete dumb bell set;

Kounkel mentioned purchasing some Christmas décor for the outside of the QCC. Will present ideas at the next council meeting;

There has been a request from the Jasper Area Historical Society for the Jasper Wellness Center to join their association. If the Wellness Center joins the Historical Society, it would have to join all the committees when asked. Decision was made to not join the Jasper Area Historical Society;

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Leslie, second by Lape to approve the raises for city employees as discussed on February 13, 2018, retroactive to January 1, 2018; all ayes, carried;

Kounkel looked into the sewer relining debt process and informed the council of the first procedures. On average, each block will cost approximately \$10,000.00. A more exact number will be presented at the April council meeting;

OLD BUSINESS:

Raising the contributions to individual retired Firemen was tabled until next month due to not have a quorum who could vote on Fire Department related material. Johnson mentioned it would be nice to see what other communities are paying. Kounkel will work on this for the April meeting;

The letter mailed to Frontier Communication was presented to the Council. Kounkel has not had any additional correspondence with Frontier Communication regarding the letter. However, it has been noticed that some pods were recently repaired;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

No land use permits were issued during the month of March;

Thode presented pricing for a sewer root cutter for the Jetter truck. The Public Works Department has been dealing with tree roots in the main recently. This device will help remove the roots without having to call in a third party. The root cutter mounts on the jetter hose, it then spins and pulls the roots out of the line. Motion by Leslie, second by Lape to purchase the root cutter for \$2800.00, all ayes, carried;

Thode received the 2017 Wastewater Treatment Facility Operational Award for the City of Jasper;

Thode mentioned that property owner Angel Garcia was going to be in attendance this evening regarding water in his garage and basement. Garcia was not present so Thode informed the council of the situation. Garcia has had water in his garage and basement recently due to the drain near the alley being plugged with gravel and ice. Garcia’s garage and basement were built lower than the alley. The previous owners also had this issue. Mayor Baustian and Thode previously looked at the alley to determine if there was a solution to redirect the water away from Garcia’s garage. However, based off of the neighboring properties there is no definite solution. Garcia will have to ensure the drain is clear;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

The window coverings for the Jasper Wellness Center are still in place at the former location. Kounkel will send the property owner a letter asking if he would remove the coverings or give the city permission to remove them. Thode advised hiring Measures by Design to remove the coverings if the property owner does not. Kounkel will send out a letter and make contact with Measures by Design;

Kounkel will be gone in training March 20, 21, 22 & 23, 2018;

Upcoming Meetings:

The next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.;

The Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2018;

Motion by Lape, second by Leslie to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m., all ayes, adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Pete Johnson, Acting Mayor