

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – April 10, 2018;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, April 10 2018 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Kim Lape, Acting Mayor-Pete Johnson, Karen Damman & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen; Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal; Reclaim Community Representative Randy Larson; Absent: Mayor-Mike Baustian;

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

Community Concerns:

Reclaim Community's representative, Randy Larson, requested permission to close Wall Street off between Burr and Sherman Avenue during Quartziter Days for their celebration on July 27, 2018. Larson informed the Council that Reclaim Community will hold a band and a car show as they have done in the past. Motion by Leslie, second by Damman to allow the closure of Wall Street between Burr and Sherman Avenue for Reclaim Community's event on July 27, 2018, all ayes, carried. Larson also questioned whether the council had any opposition to people camping on school property during the event. Given that the campers will not be permanent it is not a concern of the city. Reclaim Community may have campers at the school during Quartziter Days;

Three corrections are needed on the minutes presented for March 13, 2018. The first page has the heading of February and two vocabulary changes in the public works portion of the minutes. Motion by Lape, second by Damman to approve the minutes with corrections from the Regular Meeting on March 13, 2018, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the March Claims to date: Visa, \$2,152.46, BT Training, Amb Purchases/EMT Registry, Fire Lock, Shovels, St. Cloud Trip; Little Scrapper Pedal Pulls, \$625.00, Quartziter Days Pedal Pull; Steve Weets, 2017 Pipestone Co. Property Taxes, \$180.00; Ashley Kurtz, 2017 Rock Co. Property Taxes, \$422.64; Motion by Leslie, second by Damman to approve the March claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: Prairie Rose MN Community Fund, Ambulance Grant Proceeds, \$7,265.98; Prairie Rose MN Community Fund, Park Equipment Grant Proceeds, \$1,977.17; Highland Township, Ambulance Contract, \$1,500.00; Prairie Rose MN Community Fund, Fire Dept. Grant Proceeds, \$500.00; Pipestone Rural Fire Service, Monument Fire, \$400.00; Township of Elmer, Ambulance Contract, \$500.00;

Quarterly reports were included for the council to review;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

The delinquent sewer, water and garbage report was discussed with the council. Some delinquent accounts have been paid up to date while one is making payments;

WELLNESS CENTER/QCC:

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Pricing for a NuStep was presented to the council. Decision was made to table the purchase of a NuStep for 3 months;

Kounkel liked into pricing for outdoor Christmas décor for the QCC. The cheapest Christmas décor was approximately \$4,000.00. It was suggested either request donated Christmas décor; purchase items from a retail store or to have Kounkel make something with plywood;

The library at the QCC has been received a numerous donated books lately which has led to issues with space. It was requested to either stop donations or add a second room. There are currently 2 additional rooms available, one being directly beside the present library. Council wishes to add an additional room. The former school in Pipestone is no longer open to individuals so book shelves could not be taken from there. Last time, Thode took the shelves that were in the best condition. Not many others that remain in the school are useful. Kounkel will speak to Reclaim Community to determine if they have any book shelves in the former Jasper school available for purchase. Kounkel will also look into pricing on new shelves;

Pipestone Area Schools will be renewing the Preschool contract with the City of Jasper for the 2018-2019 school year according to Superintendent Kevin Enerson;

NEW BUSINESS:

The steel has been ordered for the new park shelter as prices are going up 7%. After speaking with three area contractors it was determined to not bid the demolition of the old shelter due to liability reasons. The city would have to require the proper insurance from the awarded bidder which may lead to issues especially if it is a private individual. The cost to remove the concrete alone would far outweigh the cost of the building. Motion by Lape to accept the bid for the removal of the old park shelter to Hawes All Construction, motion by Damman, all ayes, carried;

Kounkel has been tracking the amount of phone calls and customers since starting the extended hours on Thursday evenings. Over the course of three months, it was determined that the extended hours were not beneficial. It was decided to immediately end the extended hours. Postings regarding the city office hours will be placed on Facebook and the city website;

With summer fast approaching, a driver for the city float will need to be found. At this time, it is unknown how many parades the city of Jasper has been invited to. Kounkel will place notice on Facebook and the city website asking for interested individuals;

FYI: Pipestone County has contracted with a septate company to handle all of the counties ambulance billing. This will include the City of Jasper and Edgerton;

OLD BUSINESS:

Raising the contributions to individual retired Firemen was again tabled until next month due to not have a quorum who could vote on Fire Department related material. Tabled until May council meeting;

A letter requesting the removal of the window coverings at the former location of the Wellness Center was sent to Brian Persing, property owner on March 14, 2018. The letter was included in the council

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

packet. The letter asked Persing to remove the window coverings within 30 days of the letter or to allow the city permission to hire Measures by Design to remove the window coverings. As of April 10, Kounkel has had no communication with Persing regarding the removal of the window coverings.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

No land use permits were issued during the month of April

Thode mentioned the individual who purchased the house located at 120 6th Street West would like to demolish the house and garage. Thode thinks this may be used for truck parking in the future. The area is not zoned for that however.

Many semi-trucks have been parked in residential areas on city streets. Kounkel will make up signs to place on the trucks detailing that parking on residential streets is prohibited.

Xcel Energy is replacing electrical poles in town. If anyone is interested in the poles, they may have them. Poles are located near the truck parking area of the ballfields;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

The Council Drive-Through was discussed. With the current amount of snow on the ground, the drive-through may be pointless. It was discussed to complete a drive-through after spring cleanup days. The council would like to give residents the benefit of the doubt. It was also encouraged to drive around town and discover ways we can clean up the city. There are some signs that are rusting and flopping around. It was mentioned to have planters around town and have individuals or businesses sponsor them. The individuals or businesses would be responsible for the flowers in the planters. This would be a good way to advertise as well;

Kounkel and Lingen will be gone on April 11, 2018 for 2020 Census Training. The office will be closed;

Kounkel and Thode will be gone on April 12, 2018 for Safety and Loss Training;

Kounkel will be gone April 29 to May 4, 2018 for 3rd year of Clerk training;

Upcoming Meetings:

The Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Hearing is scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.;

Next council meeting is Tuesday, May 8, 2018.

Motion by Damman, second by Leslie to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., all ayes, adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Pete Johnson, Acting Mayor

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.