

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – August 13, 2019;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, August 13, 2019 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Mayor, Mike Baustian, Kim Lape, Dee Arp & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen; Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal; Theresa Schreurs, Developmental Services, Inc. Representative; Community Members: Cynthia Jamison, Trinidad Garcia;

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

Karen Damman recently resigned from her position on the Jasper City Council due to moving out of the city limits. Motion by Leslie, second by Arp to declare a council vacancy by approving Resolution 2019-225, all ayes, carried. Mayor Baustian stated that Trinidad Garcia showed interest in filling the position. Motion by Arp, seconded by Lape to appoint Trinidad Garcia to the Jasper City Council effective August 13, 2019 until December 31, 2020, all ayes, carried. Kounkel then delivered the oath of office to Garcia;

Community Concerns:

Teresa Schreurs from Developmental Services, Inc. was present to update the Council of the status of the Small City Development Grant interest forms. To date, DSI has received 46 interest forms from the residents of Jasper. Of those 46 forms, 3 are for commercial properties. Schreurs stated that in order for the commercial property portion of the grant to be obtained, at least 10 commercial properties will need to apply. Schreurs also informed the Council that the City of Magnolia, MN had 18-20 interest forms turned in. Schreurs is recommending to the Council to partner with the City of Magnolia so both communities do not have to compete for the grant. Motion by Lape, second by Arp to approve Phase 2 of the Small City Development Grant which would authorize Development Services, Inc. to submit an Application for a 2020 SCDG which is due in February 2020, all ayes, carried. In May/June 2020, the Council will receive the State's decision on whether the community was awarded the SCDP grant. If awarded, the Council would authorize DSI to complete Phase 3;

Kounkel then raised the question to Council regarding properties that are in dire need of repair but the owner failed to show interest in the Small City Development Grant. What could be done now? It is extremely difficult to condemn a property as the owner does not have to allow the Health Department into the location. Depending on the condition of the home, the City could declare the property a public nuisance. Kounkel will visit with Benjamin Denton regarding this concern;

Cynthia Jamison then entered the conversation. Jamison stated that she lives across the street from one of the homes that is in dire need of repairs. Jamison informed the Council that she recently took pictures of the home as she was trying to obtain pictures of the property owner who was committing a lewd act. In her opinion, the house should be condemned. The property owner is currently incarcerated for indecent exposure from an incident(s) involving a minor child. Kounkel informed the Council that numerous concerns have been raised by community members due to his close proximity to the Jasper City Park. The City is only allowed to set residency restrictions on Level 3 sex offenders. Due to the crimes committed being misdemeanors, the likelihood of him being categorized as a Level 3 are slim.

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Kounkel will visit with Benjamin Denton, Jasper City Attorney, regarding the concerns from community members;

Motion by Leslie, second by Arp to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on July 9, 2019, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the July Claims to date: Martinez Graphics, Fire Department Shirts, \$645.00; Uline, City Office Wall Cabinets, \$830.71; Sensus, Flexnet M2 Software Support, \$1,949.94; Olsen Electric, City Office Remodel, \$3,663.40; Sanitation Products, Parts for Sweeper, \$1,015.09; Dakota Entertainment, Quartziter Days Inflatables, \$5,695.37; USDA Rural Development, 97-03 ESB, \$12,698.00; Motion by Lape, second by Arp to approve the July Claims as provided, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: Lions Club, Quartziter Inflatables Donation, \$500.00; Jasper Sunrise Village, Annual Lawnmower Lease Payment, \$800.00; Chuck Sutton Auction, Taxi Bus Sale, \$1,582.75; State of MN, LGA & PERA Assistance, \$76,569.97; Quartziter Club Proceeds, \$2,588.00;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

The delinquent sewer, water and garbage report was discussed with the Council. Twelve shut off notices were disbursed last month;

Wellness Center/QCC:

The State Fire Marshall completed their inspection of the Quartziter Community Center on July 31. The inspection report was attached for Council review. All corrections need to be completed by November 8, 2019. Given that the QCC is a commercial property and the public has access to the building, the corrections need to be completed even if the daycare does not open;

Complaints regarding AMP's use of the QCC have been received in the City Office as well as to Council Members. AMP was using the dining hall to rehearse for their upcoming play production. Each evening when play practice was over, the supplies used were left on the tables, kitchen counters, etc. The hallway was plum full of items belonging to AMP. Community members were unwilling to walk in the area due to the amount of things left on the floor. Kounkel and Thode spoke with Reggie Gorter regarding these concerns. Gorter did clean up the area as requested. This is something the Council should consider when renewing her lease;

NEW BUSINESS:

As mentioned at the June Council meeting, Kounkel obtained the City of Edgerton and Pipestone County's Solar Panel Ordinance for the Council to review. Kounkel will combine the two Ordinances to suit Jasper and present at the next Council meeting;

The City Office has received numerous inquiries about the condition of Bauman Hall. The main question raised has been pertaining to the structural integrity of the east wall. During the time that Pipestone County owned the building, barricades were placed on the public sidewalk to defer anyone from walking or parking next to the building. Once the building was sold on auction, Pipestone County obtained their barricades and Reclaim Community did not feel the need to place their own. Kounkel will invite a

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representative from Reclaim Community to the Council Meeting in September so they can clarify with the city what the plan with the building and it's structural integrity would be;

The 2020 Certified LGA Amounts were presented to the Council;

OLD BUSINESS:

The MN Public Utility Commission is allowing another comment period for issues regarding Frontier Communications. Notice was given to Council regarding the comment period;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Land use permits issued during the month of July are as follows:

- John Haack, 518 4th Street West, Installation of Solar Panels;
- Angel Garcia, 310 Prospect Avenue, Constructing Barn 24' x 12';
- Angie Jones, 221 6th Street East, Constructing Deck 9' x 14';

The Council was provided copies of city maps that detail the problem areas with the streets repairing water leak repairs and issued caused by frost boils. Soy Processors will be contacted to determine if they would like to add an extra 2" of asphalt to Wall Street from Highway 23 to their unloading dock. In previous years, Mike Baustian has paid for 2" of extra asphalt to be placed on 8th Street in front of his blue shop due to large machinery using the road. Thode mentioned that the asphalt is \$140.00 per ton. Last year, the city spent \$11,500.00 for water leak repair. We also completed partial alleys. Thode said the cost of the water leak repairs and asphaltting the alleys would be comparable to the \$18,000.00 we spent last year. Thode is recommending asphaltting the 2 alleys that have raised issues year round; the alley behind the former bowling alley and the alley directly across from the Clinic Apartments. Motion by Leslie, second by Arp to complete the asphaltting of the 2 abovementioned alleys, all ayes, carried. Fuller Paving will be coming to town next week to fix the water leak areas and asphalt the alleys;

Fuller Paving will then come back after Thode and Kounkel meet with the FEMA representative regarding the frost boils. This meeting will happen around the middle of September. Once the city determines what FEMA is willing to pay, discussion regarding the frost boils will be readdressed;

The Public Works Pickup will be delivered on October 1, 2019. Sealed bids will be obtained for the purchase of the old public works pickup;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

The Jasper Senior Citizens are looking into donating money to the Marilyn DeBates Park. Kounkel questioned the Council whether anything was needed up there. Lape mentioned that the Jasper Jolly Juniors 4-H Club will be redoing the sign and all donations should go to them. Kounkel will speak with the Jasper Senior Citizens and relay this message to them. The Jasper Jolly Juniors would also like to help the American Legion by placing the American Flags on poles during holidays;

Audit scheduled for Wednesday, August 14 & Thursday, August 15, 2019;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Upcoming Meetings:

Budget Meeting, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.;

Home Occupation Public Hearing, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.;

Council Meeting, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ immediately following Home Occupation Public Hearing;

Leslie motioned to adjourn regular meeting, Arp second. All ayes, meeting adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor