

## JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – February 11, 2020;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, February 11, 2020 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Mayor, Mike Baustian, Kim Lape, Trinidad Garcia & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal; Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; Teresa Keifer, Developmental Services Inc. Representative; Absent: Dee Arp;

Mayor Baustian called the regular meeting to order 7:00 p.m.;

### Community Concerns:

Teresa Keifer, Developmental Services Inc. Representative was in attendance at the meeting to present the last required information before the grant application is submitted. Keifer asked the Council if there was any potential conflict of interest. Garcia abstained from voting due to her mother-in-law potentially applying for the grant; Lape abstained as her mother applied for the grant; and Leslie abstained as his brother may be interested in contractual work. Arp was absent from the council meeting. Mayor Baustian typically abstains from voting on matters unless a tie-breaker is needed. As long as the City of Jasper Council members remain transparent, we can move forward with the grant process to benefit the community of Jasper. Speaking on behalf of the Jasper community, Mayor Baustian would like to move forward with the grant proposal, motion by Leslie, second by Lape, all ayes, carried. The administrative proposal was submitted to the City of Jasper on January 24, 2020, no other proposals were received by the City of Jasper. Motion by Lape, second by Garcia, to allow Developmental Services, Inc. to be to lead administrative grant writer for the City of Jasper, all ayes, carried. The Local Government Resolution was signed by three individuals. Minutes from the Public Hearing, affidavit of publication and these minutes will be forwarded to Keifer for the grant;

Motion by Garcia, second by Lape to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting and Public Hearing on January 14, 2020, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the January Claims to date: Erik Skogquist, Local Assessing Contract, \$4,000.00; Concordance Healthcare Solutions, Vital Signs Monitor (Lion's Club Donation), \$1,296.49; Pipestone Co. Sheriff, 2020 Contracted Services, \$37,347.00; Motion by Lape, second by Garcia to approve the January claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: Ludolph Bus Service, Jan-March Rent, \$900.00; City of Ihlen, Mosquito Spraying, \$385.00;

### DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

The delinquent sewer, water and garbage report was discussed with the Council. Lingen provided the council with a Memo from the League of Minnesota Cities detailing that the city has a right to mandate that all landlords must have the SWG bill placed in their names, versus the in the tenants name. Three other policies from various Minnesota cities were also presented for reference. Kounkel will create an ordinance and present it at the next council meeting. Garcia shared information she acquired from the

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Newly Elected Official training she attended in January. Garcia stated that the delinquent report is public knowledge therefore the report can be published. Kounkel will contact the League of MN Cities to verify;

Lingen received numerous "Thank-Yous" for the Jasper Area United Fund;

Wellness Center/QCC: Reggie continues to hold music lessons at the QCC. She will be holding rehearsals at the QCC on Saturdays during March & half of April. Garcia mentioned that she would like to see Reggie decorate one of the bulletin boards to advertise that she is there and cover up the preschool sign;

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The City of Jasper signed an agreement in 2016 with Benjamin Denton allowing him to undertake the criminal prosecution casework for the City of Jasper when violations of state law are petty misdemeanors and/or misdemeanors. Over the past 4 years, the amount received by the City for fines has increased drastically. The City has received approximately \$3,000.00 (\$3,277.48) since 2016 but has paid out nearly \$12,000.00 (\$11,875.65) in legal fees for city issues as well as prosecution services. The Jasper City Council retains the right to revoke the Resolution at any time and enter into an agreement with the county board and county attorney for criminal prosecution services. Since 2016, the city has paid for prosecution for DWI's, domestic assaults, hit-and-runs, thefts, etc. Most of the residents committing crimes have since moved from the area so fines will not be received. Motion by Lape, second by Leslie, to revoke Resolution 2016-68 effective immediately, all ayes, carried. Kounkel will contact Denton;

Pipestone County has asked that the City of Jasper show support for Pipestone County by passing the Highway 23 Resolution requesting the placement of concrete instead of asphalt. Motion by Lape, second by Garcia to approve the Highway 23 Resolution, all ayes, carried;

#### OLD BUSINESS:

NA

#### PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

No land use permits were issued during January;

Thode obtained bids for ornamental trees to be placed at the cemetery. All proposals obtained quoted 8 Prairie Fire flowering crab trees and 8 Spring snow flowering crab trees. The bids were as follows:

#### Oak Ridge Nursery & Landscaping

- ❖ 8 – 1" Prairie Fire, \$959.60 (\$120.00 warranty)
- ❖ 6 – 6' Spring Snow, \$799.60 (\$100.00 warranty)
- ❖ Planting of 16 trees, \$1,275.00
- ❖ Total: \$3034.20 (without warranty)

#### Sunny Side Nursery

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

- ❖ 8 Prairie Fire, \$119.00/each, \$952.00;
- ❖ 8 Spring Snow, \$119.00/each, \$952.00;
- ❖ Total: \$1,904.00
- ❖ \$169.00/each with warranty
- ❖ Comes in 10 gallon pot
- ❖ If paid for in one month -3% = Total: \$1,846.88

#### Harmony Gardens

- ❖ 8 Prairie Fire \$159.00/each, \$1,279.92
- ❖ 8 Spring Snow \$159.00/each, \$1,279.92
- ❖ Total = \$2,559.84
- ❖ 1 year full warranty, ½ warranty after 1 year

Neither Harmony Gardens nor Sunny Side Nursery included the cost of planting the trees. Thode mentioned that a post digger would work adequately and the Public Works Department could do the planting. Thode will place the trees approximately 24' apart running north and south along the highway. Motion by Leslie, second by Lape to obtain the trees from Sunny Side Nursery for the amount of \$1,846.88, all ayes, carried;

Thode mentioned that the fence at the City Park is in dire need of repair or replacement. The council mentioned placing a gate in the center of fence to deter people from jumping over the fence. This may cause issues with minors however. Thode will obtain prices on replacing the fence;

The guardrails at the ballfields are falling and lack maintenance. Therefore, it was asked if they were even needed. Thode will speak with the orchestrator of the tractor pull to determine if the guardrails are still needed for future use. If they are not needed, the guardrails will be removed;

#### ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

FYI: Reclaim Community is applying for an HGTV Show to revitalize Wall Street. This will have no bearing on the Home Occupation Grant that the city is currently applying for;

#### Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting, Tuesday, March 10, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.;

TENTATIVE schedule for 2020 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization was presented to the council;

#### Garcia

Personnel Evaluations were scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.;

Lape motioned to adjourn, Garcia second. All ayes, regular meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

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Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Baustian, Mayor

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