

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting –January 12, 2021;

In accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat, Section 13D.021, Mike Baustian, the Mayor, has determined that an in person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under Chapter 12 of the Minnesota Statutes;

Because of the emergency declaration it has been determined that attendance at the regular meeting location by members of the public is not feasible. Therefore, some or all of the City Council members may be participating by telephone or other electronic means;

Members of the public were invited to monitor the meeting via invitation or were invited to attend in person;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met via in-person/phone/video conference in said city on January 12, 2021. Council members physically present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Jeff Leslie, Trinidad Garcia and Kim Lape; Council members attending via electronic means:, Dee Arp; Employees present: Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel; Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Maggie Erickson; Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; Pipestone Star's Kyle Kuphal via phone conference;

Mayor Baustian called the regular meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

Community Concerns: No members of the community were in attendance;

Motion by Lape, second by Garcia to approve the minutes from the Meeting on December 8, 2020, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the December claims to date: Jim Roggenbuck, Removal of Trees at Cemetery, \$2,800.00; Jasper Relief Association, 2018 & 2019 Fire Aid, \$34,807.64; Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co., 2019 Audit for City & Sunrise, \$7,670.00; Jasper Sunrise Village, 2020 P/C Dividend, \$1,640.64; Motion by Leslie, second by Lape to approve the December claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: Pipestone Co. Treasurer, 2020 Police State Aid, \$8,345.30; Pipestone Co. Treasurer, November 2020 Distribution, \$58,828.58, Rock Co. Treasurer, November 2020 Distribution, \$32,974.57; Pipestone Co. Treasurer, Cost Share Radar Feedback Sign, \$1,743.25; League of MN Cities, 2020 PC Dividend, \$3,418.00; MN Management & Budget, LGA Distribution & MV Credit-Ag, \$111,788.18;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

Hartquist Funeral Chapel used 201,800 gallons of water from November 27 to December 28, 2020. \$454.04 is sewer related expenses. Typically when a leak occurs and does not enter the sewer system, the city has forgiven the amount. Motion to forgive \$454.04 of Hartquist Funeral Chapel's SWG bill, all ayes, carried;

More discussion regarding the delinquent report occurred;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Wellness Center/QCC: The Wellness Center has reopened with new guidelines. Why working out, members are required to wear a mask and remain 12 feet from other participants;

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Lape, second by Arp to appoint Leslie as Acting Mayor when Baustian is unavailable, all ayes, carried;

Council Committees remained the same from last year. Kounkel will look into the Planning Commission and determine how many years they can serve;

Motion by Lape, second by Garcia to appoint Pipestone County Star as our official newspaper, all ayes, carried;

Motion by Leslie, second by Arp to designate Peoples Bank as the official depositor, all ayes, carried;

Motion by Lape, second by Garcia to approve the 2021 IRS rate for mileage reimbursement at \$0.56/mile, down 1.5 cents from 2020 rate, all ayes, carried;

The Pipestone Co. Sheriff's Office 2020 Call Log for the City of Jasper was presented to the council for informational purposes. Ambulance calls amounted to 39; Fire Calls were 5; ATV complaints were 2 and Animal Control complaints stood at 11;

OLD BUSINESS:

The council was updated on the proposed Blessings Pantry for the community. As recommended by Thode, Kounkel was in contact with the owner of the vegetable stand in West Jasper, Al Rozeboom. Rozeboom has offered to donate the last vegetable stand to the City of Jasper to convert the stand into the Blessings Pantry. The Public Works Department will be painting the stand and making repairs to ensure animals and the weather elements stay out of the stand. Thode mentioned the best place for the Blessings Pantry would be on the west side of the QCC near the flower boxes;

FYI: Property Maintenance Bills such as mowing are not allowed to be placed on the SWG bills. The amounts, if unpaid, will be assessed on the property taxes in November;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

No Land Use permits issued during December;

The City of Jasper sealcoats the streets every 6 years. 2015 was the last year the city completed this project; therefore Thode has been securing bids for the resurfacing project. After talking with the Dell Rapids Public Works Superintendent, Thode was introduced to a new product called a Slurry Seal. The City of Dell Rapids is partnering with other communities such as the City of Sioux Falls to get this project completed. Thode observed the roads in Dell Rapids. The process is oil, sand and concrete mixed together creating a surface that is about ½" thick. Thode believes this product will help the streets melt in the winter due to the surface being black. Each street will take about 30 minutes to dry, making the project's longevity very minimal. In previous years, the city has paid approximately \$1.50 per square yard. The Slurry Seal will cost \$2.50 per square yard. The city resurfaces around 118,000 square feet

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within city limits. The regular seal coat process will cost approximately \$177,000.00 while the Slurry Seal will cost approximately \$295,000.00. The city does have about \$360,000.00 saved for the project. Those will be in contact with the engineer and receive the pros and cons for the Slurry Seal;

The John Deere Tractor will be delivered soon;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

Leslie mentioned that the Jasper Fire Department has approved for Beth Jandl to join the Department. B. Jandl is the first women to serve on the Department;

Leslie also mentioned that all Fire Department classes will be completed in Lake Benton versus Minnesota West. The Fire Department paid around \$1,000.00 for each new member to receive their training. Lake Benton only charges \$240.00 and has decreased the amount of training hours from 144 to 43. The classes will be offered in spring 2021. The training is more hands on than book work. David Bryan and Leslie plan on meeting with the new instructor to get more information on the training provided;

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting, Tuesday, February 9, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.;

The council will be meeting prior to the February council meeting to discuss employee evaluations;

Leslie motioned to adjourn, Lape second. All ayes, regular meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor