CITY OF WEST OKOBOJI
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
501 TERRACE PARK BLVD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018, 6:30 P.M.

PRESIDING: Mayor Larry Traughber
COUNCILMEMBERS: Marcia Petersen, Robert Hein, Mike Olson, Jim Ladegaard, Mike Paxton.
OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Reed, Cindy Stanbro**,** Tim Titterington, Darlene Powers**,** Jason Eckard, Lissa Ballis

After the Pledge of Allegiance the Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Ladegaard/Petersen moved to adopt the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Paxton/Olson moved to approve the consent agenda, which included minutes of the previous meeting 01/08/2018, claims for February 2018, bank cash report for January 2018. All ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Dickinson County Trails Board, Erin Reed to Present Annual Report: Erin Reed, Executive Director presented an annual report on the projects the Dickinson County Trail Board has worked on during the past year and the projects they will focus on in the future. No action taken, information only.

Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association Donation Request FY19: Cindy Stanbro, Executive Director of Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music explained that they were teaming up with Pearson Lakes Art Center to offer youth classes. Ms. Stanbro requested that the City show its support through next year's budget. No action taken, information only.

Discovery House funding request FY19: No one in attendance. No action taken.

Council to discuss adding Chapter 37 "False Alarms" to the Code of Ordinances: Councilman Ladegaard questioned the need for the Ordinance. He stated he was concerned with a civil penalty and the cost to the city. Mayor Traughber suggested we monitor the alarms for a year and check with the Milford police about documentation. It was the council's consensus to gather the necessary information and put this on hold for now. Mayor Traughber tabled the item pending more information.

Council to discuss excess water charge rates: Administrator Ballis explained the current water rates on excess water over the minimum allowed gallons of $5.24 per 1,000 gallons of water were not enough to cover the costs incurred to the city. She felt the need to raise that rate at least by 10% which would make the rate $5.76 per 1,000 gallons. After some discussion between council members, councilman Ladegaard instructed Ballis to put together an Ordinance reflecting a 10% increase for the next council meeting. Information only. No action taken.

Resolution No. 2018-02 "RESOLUTION SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLICITING WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMENTS ON THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 BUDGET.": Hein/Paxton moved to set a public hearing for the City Fiscal Year 2018/19 Budget on March 12, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. Roll call vote. All ayes. Resolution Duly Adopted.

Council to consider application for payment #4 (Final) for the 2017 West Okoboji Road and First Street Project in the amount of $4,7779.86, payable to Tri-State Paving, Estherville, Iowa: Paxton/Hein moved to approve payment No. 4 (final). Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Administrator Reports: Administrator Ballis stated the new snow plow has arrived and invited those in attendance to take a look after the meeting. A Notice of Bid for the old plow truck will go out February 14th with sealed bids being accepted through March 7th. Bids will be viewed during next council meeting with a minimum bid of $1000.

Ballis explained she has started the steps to sell Titterington Park and the old City Hall. She is hoping to have a resolution ready at the next council meeting requesting the Planning and Zoning Commission to give the recommendation to sell the property.

There will be a Board of Adjustment meeting on February 21st at 2:00 P.M. to discuss a 3 foot variance request in a side yard from Pat and Susan Carr.

Ballis stated she attended the annual Fire Board meeting in January. The cities taxable valuation was down for 2019; therefore, the city's contribution for FY19 will be $62,121.98, down $2419.02 from FY18.

Ballis also explained the State of Iowa DOT has determined that former highway 32, the road between Antiques, Etc and Oak Hill Marina building is in fact still state property. It has also come to light that the sanitary district has sewer facilities within the old right of way. She has been in contact with all parties involved and will relay more information when it becomes available.

Mayor Reports: Mayor Traughber stated the finance committee will be holding a budget meeting on February 13th at 3:00 P.M. to go over FY19 budget items and to revisit salaries for Public Works Director Jason Eckard and Administrator Ballis.

Traughber also instructed Eckard that when residents call for help for personal reasons and not official city related issues he is to inform them that it is not the city's responsibility to help with those things. He suggests the residents call a handy man, pest control or another source for those types of issues and not the city. Council stated city staff is not allowed to help with personal jobs going forward and if any resident has an issue they are to contact the Mayor or a Councilmember for clarification.

Citizen Appearance: Tim Titterington was present to express his concerns over the proposed sale of Titterington Park and old City Hall. He stated he was upset that the family was not notified. Mayor Traughber apologized and explained how the idea to sell the park came to be and why the council is in favor of it. Traughber also stated the Titterington Park sign and playground equipment where going to be moved to the Westside of Vern and Coila's Park. He felt in doing so it would improve the park by adding extra parking and updating the park equipment with the funds from the sale of the property.
Titterington was concerned about the property lines around the park. Ballis explained a survey is being done on the property. This will be done before the Planning and Zoning Committee meeting. She stated this is a long process and if all goes well a public notice for the sale of the property with a bid notice will go out in June or July. She foresees the completion of the sale in July or August. Councilman Ladegaard wanted to emphasize that the city continues to pay tribute to Howard Titterington and that the sale of this property is not to dishonor his name in anyway but improve a recreational area in his name and continue with his legacy in the city.

Ladegaard/Petersen moved to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

_____
Larry Traughber, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Lissa Ballis, Administrator/City Clerk