

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

PRESIDING: Mayor Larry Traughber

COUNCILMEMBERS: Marcia Petersen, Robert Hein, Mike Paxton. Absent: Mike Olson, Jim Ladegaard

OTHERS PRESENT: Travis Harman, Todd Abrahams, Darlene Powers, Sheryl Thu, Mike Thu, Glen Petersen, Barb Lynch, Russ Beckendorf, Dan Shinkle, Tim Titterington, Jason Eckard, Lissa Ballis.

After the Pledge of Allegiance the Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Petersen/Hein moved to adopt the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried. Paxton/Petersen moved to approve the consent agenda, which included minutes of the previous meeting 02/12/2018, claims for March 2018, bank cash report for February 2018 and the renewal of a Class B Beer (BB) (Includes Wine Coolers) Permit to include Outdoor Service and Sunday Sales for West O Beer, LLC. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing for the City Fiscal Year 2018/19 Budget: Mayor Traughber opened the public hearing up at 6:32 pm; there were no comments from those in attendance or from the public. The total tax levy rate per \$1000 valuation on regular property stayed the same at \$2.00945 and the agricultural land stayed the same at \$2.00862. There were no major adjustments to this year's budget except \$130,000 dedicated to the capital improvement fund to cover the expense of new restrooms/shelter at Terrace park beach. Mayor Traughber closed the meeting at 6:34 pm.

Resolution 2018-03 to adopt the FY 2018/19 Budget: Petersen/Paxton moved to adopt and certify the City of West Okoboji Fiscal Year 2018/19 Budget. Roll call vote. All Ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Resolution Duly Adopted.

Public Hearing for the amendment to Chapter 92 Water Rates: Mayor Traughber opened the public hearing up at 6:35 pm.; Darlene Powers asked the council what the change would entail. City Administrator Ballis explained this change was for excessive water rates over the minimum of 12,000 per quarter. Raising it from \$5.24/1000 gallons to \$5.76/1000 gallons. With no additional comments from those in attendance or from the public. Mayor Traughber closed the meeting at 6:42 pm.

First reading of Proposed Ordinance No. 122, an ordinance amending Chapter 92, Section 92.02 (2) Rates for Service; Section 92.03 (2) and Section 92.03 (5) Rates Outside the City. Motion by Petersen, seconded by Hein, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 122. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Waive second and third consideration of Proposed Ordinance No. 122: Motion by Paxton, seconded by Hein, to waive the first and second consideration of Ordinance No. 122. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Adopt Ordinance No. 122: Motion by Hein, seconded by Paxton to adopt Ordinance No. 122. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Stan's Bait and Tackle Kayak Request: Mayor Traughber moved this item up on the agenda. Travis Harman was present to ask the council for permission to use Terrace Park Beach to hold a water kayak demonstration and trail on April 29 and May 12 of this year. The council felt this was a reasonable request. Motion by Petersen/Hein to allow Stan's Bait and Tackle to use Terrace Park Beach for this demonstration. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Todd Abrahamson to update council on the Okoboji Bond: Superintendent Abrahamson presented the council with the final master plan for the Okoboji School District. He stated this updated plan come from public input. Abrahamson explained the purpose, project, tax information and stated their bond website was updated regularly for more information and encouraged those with questions to contact him directly. He encourages all to vote for the bond on April 3, 2018. No action taken, information only.

Council to consider application by Scott Kass to the Dickinson County Trails Board, to replace Nick Steffes. Motion by Paxton/Hein to approve the application of Scott Kass to the Dickinson County Trails Board. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Council to consider the appointment of Josh Miller to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Motion by Hein/Paxton to appoint Josh Miller to the Planning and Zoning Committee with term to expire April 1, 2023. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Council to consider approval of Transient Merchant Permit for Midwest Garden Center, Inc. Motion by Hein/ Petersen to approve Transient Merchant Permit for Midwest Garden Center, Inc. to be set up on the property of Oh Shucks. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Review and possible acceptance or rejection of Bids for "AS IS, NO WARRANTY" sale of 1994 International 4900 Plow Truck: City Administrator Ballis stated one sealed bid was submitted to the city for the plow truck. Upon opening the sealed bid, 4

Evergreen Inc. Landscape and Design bid \$1001.00. Motion by Paxton/Hein to accept bid of \$1001.00 from 4 Evergreen Inc. Landscape and Design. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2018-04 “RESOLUTION REFERRING PROPOSAL TO SELL/CONVEY CITY PROPERTY TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST OKOBOJI, IOWA.”: Glen Petersen is concerned with the sale of city property and the rationale behind it. Mayor Traugher stated the City was approached by an individual who was interested in buying the Old City Hall building to convert into a home. Over the course of several months the council has discussed this possibility and the council felt the building has been abandoned by the City with no future use in mind and the park rarely used. Parking available there is used by those in the neighborhood as overflow parking as well. Public Works Director Jason Eckard had previously put a sketch together to move the Titterington Park sign to the Westside of Vern and Coila’s Park. With the sale of the property the City would be able to use some of those funds to upgrade and get better park equipment for that area as well as expand the parking there. A few in attendance disagreed that the park was rarely used, but agreed the equipment should be updated. Sheryl Thu stated the City could look into registering the Old City Hall on the National Registry for Historical Buildings. She also feels this is a sacred space that should be kept by the City for the public to use. Petersen feels there is no need to sell city property unless there is a reason. He stated he did not agree in sending this proposal to the Planning and Zoning for their recommendation. Councilmember Paxton felt we needed to follow through and move forward with the recommendation. Motion by Hein/Petersen to refer proposal to sell/convey City Property to the Planning and Zoning Commission to study, review and to make a recommendation to the City Council. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Resolution Duly Adopted.

Resolution No. 2018-05 “RESOLUTION SETTING CITY EMPLOYEE WAGE STARTING FEBRUARY 16, 2018.”: Hein/Paxton moved to approve city employee wage starting February 16, 2018. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Resolution Duly Adopted.

Council to discuss third party city wide garbage and recycling collection: Mayor Traugher stated the city has had issues with outside people / contractors dumping garbage, recycling and white goods at City Hall. He explained the drop off is for residents of West Okoboji only and for items generated from the city not to be used by residents who have property from other communities. He stated the finance committee had brought the idea up to explore options, one being a third party collection service. The council directed Administrator Ballis to get bids from Waste Management and Town and Country Disposal. Glen Petersen asked why we would punish the residents in town for the transgressions of a few. Traugher stated he has inquired about the service received in other towns that had switched to a third party collector and that once the switch was made those individuals really liked the service. Traugher stated something needed to be done, whether it was a third party collector, a fence to close off the area during certain hours and/or updating our surveillance equipment. Petersen inquired what it was costing the city. Administrator Ballis stated over the last four years the average profit was around \$28,000. This amount however did not factor in putting money away for new equipment. It also did not correctly reflect the wages, taxes and insurance that should have been coming out of this fund either. Landfill fees, recycling fees and Dickinson Co. Conservation fees have all increase this year. With the estimated expenses vs. profit for FY19, it is estimated the city will profit \$240.00. A few in attendance were concerned with the fact that if everything were to go to a third party, garbage and recycling would be restricted to curbside collection only, with no containers at City Hall. Traugher stated something needed to be done because it is a problem that continues to grow. At this time the council would get bids, see what other options are available and continue the discussion at future council meetings. No action taken, information only.

Council to consider sending City Administrator, Lissa Ballis to the IMFOA Spring Conference, April 18-20: Motion by Hein/Petersen to send City Administrator to IMFOA Spring Conference. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

Russ Beckendorf to present MHR Insurance Renewal: Russ Beckendorf presented the City’s insurance renewal plan to the mayor and council. The city was given a discount of \$1,452.79 on this year’s premiums. Beckendorf explained this year’s premiums were also \$589.70 less than it was last year. He explained additional coverage options with cost differences. Beckendorf stated at this time the city has the minimum coverage of two million dollars. Motion by Petersen/Hein to approve the insurance renewal with no changes. Roll call vote. All ayes. Absent: Ladegaard, Olson. Motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

None to report

Hein/Paxton moved to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 P.M.

Larry Traugher, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lissa Ballis, Administrator/City Clerk