

January 8, 2018

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM Washburn City Hall

Present: City Council Members:

Mary McGrath, Richard Avol, Jeremy Oswald (5:35), John Gary, Jennifer Maziasz, Robert Arquette, Karen Spears Novachek (appointed at meeting).

Municipal Personnel:

Mayor Scott A. Griffiths, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Dan Stoltman, City Attorney Siegler

Excused Absence:

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Griffiths. Roll call attendance depicted five (5) of six (6) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting December 11, 2017– A motion was made by Avol to approve the December 11, 2017, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously with Arquette abstaining.

Approval of Expenditures- A motion to approve the monthly expenditure vouchers made by Avol, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote of all five (5) councilors in attendance.

Public Comment – Roy Settgas, representing Bayfield Peninsula Energy Alternatives, spoke on the Xcel Energy proposed powerline and substation(s), and the group’s efforts in working with Xcel Energy for an alternative location. Oswald entered the meeting.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments- The Mayor discussed the grant the city received to fix the Coal Dock.

Appointment for At-Large Council Seat/Swear In New Member – The Mayor stated that the candidates will have an opportunity to speak and Council will have an opportunity to ask each candidate questions. The Mayor stated that the Council can appoint a candidate, or choose not to, and wait for the election in the spring of 2018. The Mayor stated that both candidates will also be on the ballot in the spring election.

Rhonda Myers - Ms. Myers gave an introduction about herself. Avol, referencing the letter Ms. Myer wrote, asked what business she previously owned. Ms. Myer stated she owned a window cleaning and daycare business. Oswald, referencing the letter Ms. Myer wrote, asked what the issue was in the city she previously lived that inspired her to become involved in that city. She stated it was due to the decline of a neighborhood that was being forgotten and left behind. Maziasz asked if Ms. Myer had attended any Washburn Council or Committee meetings, and what she thought the big challenges for Council will be. Ms. Myer stated that she had not attended any meeting, but felt the brokedown palace, the Omaha Street property, up keep at the parks, and attracting more tourists were important.

Karen Spears Novachek – Ms. Novachek gave an introduction about herself. She stated that she doesn’t have any specific issues to address as a Council member, but is interested in listening to the community about what issues they see, and wants to hear from young families on what issues they see as important.

A motion was made by Oswald to appoint Karen Spears Novachek for At-Large Council Seat, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote. Scott Kluver swore in Karen Spears Novachek and she was seated with the Council.

Council Appointment to Harbor Commission – A motion was made by Avol appoint McGrath to Harbor Commission, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action on Offer on City-Owned Property for Harbor View Parking Lot – Lot 3 of Draft Certified Survey Map Approved at December 11, 2017 Council Meeting – American Hotel Association, LLC – Petitioner – Jeff Moberg was present to represent American Hotel Association, LLC. Avol asked Mr.

Moberg if they had any immediate plans for the property. Mr. Moberg stated that nothing major was planned. They intended to do general maintenance and use the property as it currently is for parking needs. A motion was made by Avol to sell City-Owned Property for Harbor View Parking Lot – Lot 3 of Draft Certified Survey Map Approved at December 11, 2017 Council Meeting to American Hotel Association, LLC for twenty eight thousand dollars (less the \$10,000 credit) with utility easement rights retained by the City, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Response from Iron Works on Memo of Understanding and Offer to Purchase North ½ of Lot 31 on the City’s Property Inventory List (Tax ID 36799) – Washburn Iron Works, Petitioner – Taylor Pearson spoke on behalf of the Iron Works. A discussion took place on the Iron Works timeframe for development. Pearson stated that they would have liked to start in 2018, but it may be too late for that. A discussion took place on air quality. Pearson discussed the systems in place to control air quality and stated no issues have occurred in about twelve years, and installed an upgrade in 2013 that will shut the system down is a problem is detected, and no problems have been detected since. A discussion took place on odors coming from the plant. Pearson stated that the odors are of melting metal and are typical of that industry, and the addition to the building and or the rearranging of equipment will not have an impact the odor. A discussion took place on options to sell the Iron Works the property with an understanding that an agreement has to be made to move the sewer line. It was stated that the sewer line is currently located on the Iron Works property. It was stated that the City should sell the property to the Iron Works and because the Iron Works can’t build over the sewer line, it is in their best interest to come to an agreement with the city at a later time to move the sewer line. A motion was made by Avol to sell the north ½ of Lot 31 on the City’s property inventory list (Tax ID 36799) to the Washburn Iron Works for five thousand dollars, with a screening easement, and the Iron works pay for half of the certified survey map, second by Oswald. Motion carried 5-2 with McGrath and Arquette against.

Discussion & Action on 2018 Thompson’s West End Park Boat Ramp Fees – Kluver stated that the increase in the rates at West End was to keep parity with the rates at the Washburn Marina. The Marina is the city’s preferred location to have the public launch boats, so by keeping the rates the same, cost won’t be a factor as to where people decide to launch their boats. A motion was made by McGrath to increase the boat ramp fees to eight dollars for a daily pass and fifty dollars for a seasonal pass, second by Oswald. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Amendment to Marina Management Agreement Related to Insurance Requirements – An overview of the item was given. It was stated the policy was in place due to a loan that was taken out, but the loan has been paid off and therefore no longer required. A motion was made by Novachek to approve amending the Marina Management Agreement related to insurance requirements, second by Arquette. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #18-001 Combining Wards into Single Polling Place for Spring Election – It was stated that this is an annual resolution. A motion was made by Avol to approve resolution #18-001 combining Wards into single polling place for spring election, second by Gary. Motion carried unanimously.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Bartender License Applications – #19 – 43 through 44 – No discussion took place. A motion was made by McGrath to approve Bartender License Applications – #19 – 43 through 44, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Items – Council did not go into closed session.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Avol to adjourn at 6:45pm, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Stoltman
Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30PM

Committee Members Mary McGrath, Richard Avol, and Jennifer Maziasz reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.