

September 10, 2018

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM Washburn City Hall

Present: City Council Members: Aaron Austin, Linda Barnes, John Gary, Jennifer Maziasz, Karen Spears Novachek.

Municipal Personnel: Mayor Richard Avol, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Treasurer Tammy L. DeMars

Excused Absence: Mary McGrath, Jeremy Oswald

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Avol. Roll call attendance depicted five (5) of seven (7) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting of August 20, 2018– A motion was made by Novachek to approve the August 20, 2018– minutes, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Expenditures- A motion was made by Novachek to approve the monthly expenditures, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

Public Comment – Tom Niemes, 605 W. 4th St., Washburn – applauded the Council for approving the Pearl Beach Project, ask that the City consider restoring the three docks at West End Park and the Zoning should be changed to be pro-business. Dick Steel, 423 Wisconsin St, Washburn – ask that something be done for dust control on Holman Lake View Dr and in the alley behind his home.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments – Mayor Avol talked about what residents and businesses can do to help Washburn look more appealing to the eye. He was recently contacted about the lack of weed control and property maintenance, and feels that he along with others could do a better job of sprucing up the City. Lake Superior By-Way Committee Representatives – The Mayor stated he has had no applications for the Lake Superior By-Way Committee therefore the committee still has a vacancy. Washburn Housing Authority - Motion was made by Novachek to appoint Thomas Mittelstaedt to the Washburn Housing Authority Board, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution 18-010 On Approving \$1,840,000 Sewer and Water System Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 2018A – Sean Lentz of Ehlers reviewed the information on this Bonding, this is phase one (1) and it covers the 1996 Treatment Plant issue. This will save the utility on the average of \$7,000.00 per year for the next 17 years. Bids were received from Chippewa Valley Bank and Bremer Bank, Chippewa came in slightly lower at 3.690% fixed. Novachek moves to approve Resolution 18-010 approving \$1,820,000 Sewer and Water System Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 2018A issued by Chippewa Valley Bank, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Report from Library Director – Darrel Pendergrass Library Director gave verbal report on the capital project needs at the Library. The roof project was completed in 2017 with the help of a grant through Bremer Bank and City funding. The building needs tuck pointing and although it's not an immediate need it cannot be put off for long. The last estimated cost received was in the neighborhood of \$240,000.00. The Library Board will be starting a fund-raising campaign to help raise some of the money, they will also apply for any grants that may be available including the Bremer Foundation. The Elevator was struck by lightning and has been repaired and is holding its own but since it is old parts are getting harder to find and the cost to replace is around \$30,000.00. The third issue is the ADA inspection was done and it shows that the handicap parking area needs some work, the pitch of the street is off, the sidewalk needs some hand rails and there is a bit of a lip on the front door making it difficult for wheel chairs to go over. In talking with the Public Works Department, we may be able to put a 16' wide parking pad closer to the building, this would allow them to be able to get out on an even surface and not have so far to walk. This would require possible cutting of a clump of the cedar trees in the back. They are waiting for a final estimate on this, as

there is a good possibility it could be done yet this year. Avol and Novachek, both voiced their pleasure on how much easier this could make it for individuals with handicaps.

Presentation, Discussion & Referral of 2019 General Fund Operating, Capital, and Debt Service Budgets

Kliver reports although the City is financially stable the budget is very tight and gets tighter each year. New development is needed if we want to continue offering the services we have now and do the number of capital outlay projects needed. Discussion occurred on the Ambulance Service need for day time coverage, capital projects being recommend for approval this year and those that will have to be put on hold. Avol also talked about the importance of having growth, development and thanked the staff for all the hard work they have done on the budget.

A motion was made by Maziasz to refer the 2019 General Fund Operating, Capital, and Debt Service Budget to the Finance and Personnel Committee, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Solicitation of Public Works Director Position/Job Description – Discussion. A motion made by Novachek to authorize to proceed with the solicitation of Public Works Director Position with the current job description, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Park Committee Recommendation to Repair the West End Park Jetty (Rock Dock) to the Fishing Pier - Maziasz reports the Park Committee and some members of the Public Works went to West End and looked at the Jetty. They all agreed very quickly that most of the vegetation needs to be removed to make this a functional dock, the estimated cost is \$10,000.00. Moved by Barnes to approve the recommendation of the Parks Committee to repair the West End Park Jetty, second by Gary. Motion carried unanimously. Maziasz also thanked Stoltman and the Park Committee for the effort and time put into this project.

Discussion & Action on Goose Hunt in West End Park/Treatment Plant/Marina Area – Discussed. Moved by Novachek to open floor, second by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously. Tom Niemes suggest doing not only a fall hunt, but a spring hunt along with the addling the eggs. Moved by Barnes to close floor, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously. Maziasz moves to approve a goose hunt in the West End Park, Treatment Plant and Marina Area, second by Austin. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Action on Contract with Bowmar Appraisal, Inc. for 2019-20 Assessor Services -Moved by Novachek to approve a contract with Bowmar Appraisal, Inc. for the next two years with an increase of \$200.00 each year, second by Barnes. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 18-004 Providing for an Extension of Premises for Alcohol Licensees During Special Events – Moved by Austin to table until the October Council Meeting, second by Novachek. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Bartender License Renewals - #20-42 and 20-43 A motion was made by Barnes to approve Bartender License Renewals - #20-42 and 20-43, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Austin to adjourn at 7:13 pm, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Tammy L. DeMars
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30PM

Committee Member Karen Novachek, and Aaron Austin, reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers. Mary McGrath was out of town.