



Minutes
Regular City Council Meeting
February 1, 2017 - 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

In attendance: Mayor Carl Pederson, Councilor Paul Miller, Councilor Steve Ovick, Councilor Brian Scholin, and Councilor Mary Kay Sloan.

Absent: None.

Staff in attendance: City Administrator Ken Cammilleri, City Treasurer Matthew Van Steenwyk, Liquor Store Manager/Park & Rec. Supervisor Lara Smetana, Fire Chief Tom Miller, Community Development Director/City Planner Andrew Mack, and Public Works Supervisor Maury Montbriand.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:31 p.m. and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda – Cammilleri moved to change item 8.B to indicated Liquor Store – corrected from Parks and Recreation. Also to move Liquor store sales report to follow from 8.D. Addition of item F. under Fire Department discussion – “Request for township installment payments on Fire Coverage under current contract”. Addition of topic under Mayor - February 22 meeting discussion. *Motion by Sloan, seconded by Ovick, to approve modified the agenda. Motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the November 30th Regular, December 20th Special, and January 4th Regular City Council meetings were approved on a motion by Ovick, seconded by Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Items –

The Council had a discussion with staff regarding advertising expenses. Staff provided clarification on what those expenses where.

Miller made a motion to approve the consent items. The consent items included the approval of bills for January 2017 and the acceptance of the Pine County Fines Report for December, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum – No public comments were made or offered.

Sheriff’s Report – A representative from the Sheriff’s Office was not in attendance to present the report.

Proposed Phone System Change – Van Steenwyk and Cammilleri provided an overview of the issues currently being presented as well as the Marco’s proposal. *Motion by Ovick, seconded by Pederson, to move forward with proposal to change phone services for US Internet to Marco. Motion carried.*

City of Pine City

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Resolution #17-14: Cammilleri provided an overview of changes in the new collective bargaining agreement with the Teamsters Local 320.

Sloan made a motion, seconded by Ovick, to adopt Resolution 17-14, Approving staff to enter into a three-year collective bargaining agreement with the Minnesota Teamsters Public Employees' Union, Local No. 320 for 2017 - 2019. On a rollcall vote, the motion passed 5-0, with Scholin, Miller, Sloan, Ovick and Pederson voting in favor and none against.

Resolution #17-13: Council considered a resolution to provide a credit card to Andrew Mack, Community Development Director/Planner on the City's credit card account with Spire Credit Union.

Ovick made a motion, seconded by Miller, to adopt Resolution 17-13, Allowing an additional Spire Visa credit card to be issued to Andrew Mack, Community Development Director/Planner at SPIRE Credit Union, Pine City. On a rollcall vote, the motion passed 5-0, with Scholin, Miller, Sloan, Ovick and Pederson voting in favor and none against.

Liquor Store: Smetana relayed the plan to move an existing college student employee to permanent part-time position. Smetana indicated the position's schedule would be below the contractual limit for union. Cammilleri indicated that this position change would result in additional costs related to retirement benefits. Scholin interjected that the position could go past the threshold and be placed into union coverage. Cammilleri provided a response. Council continued with a brief discussion on the existing scheduling practice, hour needs, as well as position needs for the liquor store. *Miller motioned to approve the position status, seconded by Ovick. Motioned carried.*

Smetana provided the January 2017 monthly sales report for the Liquor Store. Sales and profits were both up \$10k. January saw an increase of 603 customers over January 2016. Smetana indicated that the remodel would be commencing on Monday February 6th. Liquor committee meeting scheduled for on the 9th.

Public Works: Montbriand requested approval to seek quotes for the purchase of a new pickup truck. Montbriand continued by providing an overview of the need for new truck. *Ovick made a motion to approve that the quote process to commence, seconded by Sloan. Motioned carried.*

Snow removal - Cammilleri highlighted the exceptional job done by Public Works staff after last snow. Cammilleri highlighted the plan to implement procedural changes. Cammilleri indicated the intention to conduct a recap meeting in March, at the end of season, to get feedback from the community. A discussion will follow to potentially modify practices off of that feedback. Montbriand stated he intends to discuss with other cities to determine the feasibility and benefit of a new two-stage blower.

Resolution #17-12: Mack provided highlight of the conditional use permit, reading from the City Council Staff Report dated January 24th, 2017.

Ovick made a motion, seconded by Scholin, to adopt Resolution 17-12, Approving a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a used car sales lot, commercial car wash, and vehicle service business at 865 Main Street South - Request by Joseph Foster and Nicholas Johnson (Old 61 Auto Sales). On a rollcall vote, the motion passed 5-0, with Scholin, Miller, Sloan, Ovick and Pederson voting in favor and none against.

Township Payments for Fire Service- Cammilleri relayed a request for approval to split up payments to two installments per year on July & December. Mayor and Council indicated no concerns with splitting payments to July and December.

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Approval of Hire for Assistant Fire Chief

Note: Councilor Paul Miller left council table and joined the public seating.

Applicants:

Justin Jahnz
Paul Miller

Jason Skluzacek provided an overview of the recruitment and interview process. Skluzacek's recommendation is that Paul Miller be offered the Assistant Fire Chief position based upon his knowledge and experience. Cammilleri provide a review of candidates and their relation to the minimum qualifications, the interviews and the points scale process used. Cammilleri indicated Paul Miller was the stand out applicant due to his skills related to scene command, situational awareness, and administrative experience. Cammilleri provided his recommendation to offer the position to Paul Miller.

Council entered into a discussion about the applicants and some council members voiced their concerns with a potential conflicts of interest and nepotism with regard to hiring Miller. Council requested to review the job description and the duties of the Assistant Chief.

Paul Miller offered the option of resigning his council position if he was offered the Assistant Fire Chief position.

Direction from Mayor Pederson to table the offer of the position. Mayor Pederson also directed that staff create terms and conditions for offer as guided by legal counsel. Additionally, Mayor Pederson indicated the need for delineation on what would be the duties of the Assistant Chief vs. council, and the terms of employment. *Motion to table until the next council meeting by Ovick and seconded Pederson. Motion carried.*

Public Comment: Jim France made a note that this type of situation was going to be an ongoing issue as other related individuals exist in fire department.

Councilor Paul Miller rejoined the Mayor and Council.

Next meeting agenda items:

- Assistant Chief Recruitment
- Utility Rate Study
- Pine City Government Center: Sloan requested a listing of the minimum things we want in a government center
- Pederson indicated a cooperative meeting with PCHS, PTC. Additional information to be provided at the next meeting.
- For March's meeting – Memorandum for providing a clothing allowance for non union represented staff and council members.
- Sloan, Mack, and Cammilleri met with Erin Anderson from Commonwealth on the housing score for housing tax credits through MHFA. Cammilleri indicated a potential for a revised score of 96. Mack added that it was a favorable meeting.

Mayor Pederson adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Matt Van Steenwyk
City Treasurer/Assistant to the City Administrator

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