

Mayor Dave Olson called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on February 11, 2018 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Mayor David Olson, Matt Schutte, Tony Schultz, and Emily Krage. Also present were: Audrey Hegland, Randy Thesing, Ed Jacobs, Hein and Karla Bloem, Officer Brett Hurley and Steve Skifton.

Public Comment Period: No public comment.

International Owl Center – Option to Purchase: Karla Bloem stated that the Owl Center option agreement in the packet did not have changes from October that the Owl Center Board had proposed. She outlined their proposal as follows:

- That section 8-c shall say “Prior to the transfer of title, Owl Center must control at least \$1 million in assets. The plans and specifications for a new Owl Facility should be at least 5,000 SF, as outlined in fundraising exhibits or other new facility as approved by City.
- Timeframe, section 9-c: Current language seems to state that they must start and finish within two years. It should be that they start construction within two years then complete construction within two years from the time they began building.

Owl Festival Art Contest: Bloem stated there had been a tremendous response to the contest this year, with artwork coming from 37 countries, with some being outstandingly good. Choosing winning entries was difficult as only 16 can win. Notecards with some of the artwork will be made and sold at the Center.

She mentioned the City’s street banners that are faded and old; asked Council to consider allowing the Owl Center to use some of the drawings to replace them. It would be at their expense, including new fiberglass holders. They would work with Stanislawski to determine the best size. The Council was open to the request and said she should work with Randy Thesing on size so it doesn’t damage the light poles. Their plan will be brought back to the Council for approval when ready to go.

Water Treatment Facility – Pay Estimate #4 Wapasha Construction: MOTION BY SCHULTZ, SECONDED BY SCHUTTE TO PAY WAPASHA CONSTRUCTION’S ESTIMATE #4 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$229,952.02 FOR WORK DONE ON THE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wastewater Facility Engineering – Resolution and Agreement for Interim Loan: MOTION BY KRAGE, SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION AND AGREEMENT FOR THE INTERIM MICRO LOAN WITH MN RURAL WATER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$222,000 FOR THE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING EXPENSE FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wastewater Facility – MN Public Facility Authority Funding Application Resolution: MOTION BY SCHUTTE, SECONDED BY KRAGE TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION RESOLUTION FOR THE MN PUBLIC FACILITY AUTHORITY FUNDING FOR THE WASTEWATER FACILITY; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Employee Health Insurance Modification: Previously renewed Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance would not pay toward doctor visits until the deductible had been reached; neither employees nor the Council were notified of this change. After reviewing options available, the Personnel Committee has determined the best option would be to reimburse up to half of the \$3,800 deductible (\$1,900) per employee for doctor’s visits. MOTION BY SCHULTZ, SECONDED BY SCHUTTE TO APPROVE REIMBURSING HALF OF THE \$3,800 DEDUCTIBLE COST (\$1,900) PER EMPLOYEE FOR DOCTOR’S VISITS; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Personnel: Phased Retirement Plan: Audrey Hegland has initiated a phased retirement with PERA which includes reduction in hours from 25/week to 16/week. A full retirement is planned after the Playground Project is

completed. Some of her duties will be transferred to Amanda Langheinrich, so her hours will be increased from 20 to 25 hrs. per week and a pay increase OF \$1.00/hr. MOTION BY SCHUTTE, SECONDED BY KRAGE, TO APPROVE THE PHASED RETIREMENT FOR AUDREY HEGLAND AS PRESENTED; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. A second MOTION BY SCHULTZ, SECONDED BY KRAGE, TO APPROVE THE INCREASE IN TIME AND PAY INCREASE FOR AMANDA LANGHEINRICH; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Fire Department New Members: Fire Chief Steve Skifton stated of the five applicants, four were interviewed, one withdrew. Based on the interviews, he requests Council approval of Brian Werner and Tanner Johnson as new members of the department. MOTION BY SCHULTZ, SECONDED BY KRAGE TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN WERNER AND TANNER JOHNSON AS MEMBERS; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. In addition, Skifton stated that a member of the Fire Department will be retiring in March or April, so he requested approval to appoint Nathan Hahn to fill that position when it becomes vacant. Nathan's appointment will fill the 25th position for the Department. MOTION BY SCHULTZ, SECONDED BY SCHUTTE TO APPOINT NATHAN HAHN TO FILL THE 25TH POSITION ONCE IT IS VACANT; MOTION CARRIED, WITH KRAGE ABSTAINING. Skifton stated the Fire Department will be using a blended training program involving some on-line programming along with hands-on.

Pay Equity Report: The report has been submitted with no problems or concerns. MOTION BY KRAGE, SECONDED BY SCHUTTE TO APPROVE THE PAY EQUITY REPORT AS SUBMITTED; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Consent Agenda Items: MOTION BY KRAGE, SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT ITEMS (Minutes and Financial Report/Payment of Bills); UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Department Reports:

Maintenance: Thesing: Will be hauling snow away. The biosolids report came back incorrect; this has occurred before and when he calls in to check, it turns out to be an error on the State's end, so all's well.

Motion to Adjourn: MOTION BY SCHUTTE, SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:34 PM; MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Fire Board met at 7:30 pm.