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# COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

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CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**January 13, 2014**

The Wells City Council convened on Monday, January 13, 2014 at 5:00 pm in the Wells Community Center Council Chambers.

Mayor Ron Gaines called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: John Herman, Gary Robbins, Ann Marie Schuster, and Ashley Seedorf. Councilmembers absent: none. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, City Attorney David Frundt, City Engineer Travis Winter, Assistant Street Supervisor Mike Pyzick and Police Chief Jim Ratelle. Mayor Gaines led the group in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

### **AGENDA**

The agenda for the January 13, 2014 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Schuster with second by Robbins to approve the agenda with two changes, which was to omit Pay Estimate #7 and Pay Estimate #2 from the agenda. Motion carried.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting held on December 9, 2013 and the special meeting held on December 23, 2013 were reviewed. Motion by Herman and second by Robbins to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

### **2014 DESIGNATIONS**

Motion by Herman and second by Schuster to appoint Senior Councilmember Ashley Seedorf as Acting Mayor. Motion carried.

Motion by Schuster and second by Seedorf to designate the Wells Mirror as the Official Newspaper. Motion carried.

Motion by Robbins and second by Herman to designate Paragon Bank, People's State Bank and Wells Federal Banks as Official Depositories. Gaines, Herman & Robbins voting in favor with Schuster & Seedorf abstaining. Motion carried.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

The list of bills for December 2013 and January 2014 were reviewed. Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to pay the bills for December totaling \$164,702.69 and the January bills totaling \$261,535.53. Motion carried.

The November financial statements of revenues & expenditures and balances & receipts were reviewed. Motion by Robbins and second by Seedorf to approve as presented. Motion carried.

The November building permits and employee overtime & compensatory time reports were reviewed. Motion by Robbins and second by Seedorf to accept reports as presented. Motion carried.

The Fire Department minutes from October to December 2013 were reviewed. Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to accept as presented. Motion carried.

The 2013 Deputy Registrar Report was reviewed. Motion by Robbins and second by Herman to accept as presented. Motion carried.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Police Chief Ratelle gave the Police Department report. He reported calls were up slightly in 2013, that part time officer's applications were being reviewed and that December was not an ordinary month for overtime due to scheduled "Use of Force" training, vacations and Total Zero Death (TZD) participation, which is a program to reduce accidents and for which the City receives some overtime reimbursement.

Assistant Street Supervisor Pyzick discussed the Street Department Report which was included in the Council packet.

City Administrator Leslie mentioned the following items will be addressed at the next Council meeting: Union Contracts, Closed session for personnel items and 2014 Budget items.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rob Hartman spoke on behalf of the Theatre Board and stated he would like to discuss the proposed increase in ticket prices. He stated this was the first time the Board has received an all-out mandate from the Council. He also stated the Board increased advertising prices to generate additional revenue in lieu of raising ticket prices. He mentioned the Board history and recent upgrades at the Theatre. He also noted the Theatre is considered, "the Jewel of Wells." He asked the City Council whether the Theatre should be categorized like the pool, library and parks or should it fund the General Fund. He noted 2013 was a record year for attendance and that most of the customers at the Theatre are from out-of-town.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Resolution 2014-01 (Receiving Report & Calling for Hearing on Improvements)**

City Engineer Winter presented the Preliminary Engineering Report for 2014 Street Improvements (10<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 11<sup>th</sup> Street SW) and held a discussion with the Council. He noted that figures were included for both bituminous and concrete and that any costs associated with an upgrade to concrete would be at the City's cost due to the development agreement with USC dated April 22, 2013. He stated the difference is approximately \$103,000. Motion by Schuster and second by Robbins to approve Resolution 2014-01: Receiving Report & Calling for Hearing on Improvements not to exceed \$1,200,000. Motion carried.

### **St. Casimir Catholic Church Gambling Permit**

Motion by Robbins and second by Herman to approve a gambling permit for St. Casimir Catholic Church for February 9, 2014. Motion approved.

**US Air Force Plane Refurbishment Estimate**

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve estimate for US Air Force Plane refurbishment for \$750.00 plus tax with the condition the refurbishment be done prior to the 2014 Airport Fly-In Breakfast. Motion carried.

**Wells Area Chamber of Commerce Request for Financial Support**

The Council discussed providing in-kind services for the Chamber in lieu of financial support and if the Chamber would like to request specific financial support, to do so in the future.

**MPCA Clean Water Partnership Grants/Loans**

Motion by Herman and second by Robbins to authorize Faribault County SWDC to submit a proposal for MPCA Clean Water Partnership Grants/Loans. Motion carried.

**2014 Minnesota Participating Cities Program (MCP)**

Motion by Herman and second by Seedorf to participate in the 2014 Minnesota Participating Cities Program for First Time Homebuyers with the Housing & Redevelopment Authority acting as agent. Motion carried.

**City Certificates of Deposit Expirations/Renewals**

City Administrator Leslie requested some direction with City CDs and wanted to know if the Council would like to develop an investment committee. The Council discussed and Ms. Leslie was directed to work directly with Councilmember Schuster.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**COUNCIL REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Gaines-none

Councilmember Herman-none

Councilmember Robbins-Would like a Public Safety Committee Meeting scheduled.

Councilmember Schuster-Would like to discuss the Theatre at the next meeting.

Councilmember Seedorf-none

Mayor Gaines reminded the Council that the next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 5:00 pm at the Wells Community Center Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Robbins and second by Herman to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm.

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Mayor Ronald Gaines

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City Administrator Robin Leslie