



The Wells City Council convened on Monday, October 13, 2014 at 4:00 pm in the Wells Community Center Council Chamber.

Mayor Ron Gaines called the meeting to order with the following councilmembers present: John Herman, Ann Marie Schuster and Ashley Seedorf. Councilmembers absent: Gary Robbins. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, City Engineer Travis Winter, Street Foreman Mike Pyzick and Police Chief Jim Ratelle.

AGENDA

The agenda for the October 13, 2014 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

CLOSED WORKSESSION

Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to go into closed session per Minnesota Statute 13D.03 to discuss labor negotiations. Motion carried.

Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to go back into open session. Motion carried. Mayor Gaines stated no action was taken in closed session.

Mayor Gaines led the group in the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on September 22, 2014 were reviewed. Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brenda Weber asked if any councilmembers had a chance to examine different alleys and the new setbacks for fences. Herman stated he did not but that he would like to take another look at the ordinance. Weber stated she still feels some of the setbacks don’t make sense especially for those in the older part of town. The council directed Ms. Leslie to have the Planning & Zoning Commission revisit the ordinance and then send it back to council.

CONSENT ITEMS

Payments

Motion by Herman and second by Schuster to approve payments in the amount of \$181,121.76. Motion carried.

Financial Statements

Motion by Schuster and second by Seedorf to approve the financial statements as listed on pages 4-7 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Building Permits/Overtime/Comp Time Reports

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve all reports as listed on pages 8-9 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Street Foreman Mike Pyzick stated the street department has been working on street sweeping and tree trimming. Pyzick stated they are still making progress on the new street signage near the new school site. He also stated that the city hall concrete project has been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

Pay Estimate #3 (Ulland Brothers), 2014 Street Improvement Projects

Motion by Herman and second by Seedorf to approve Pay Estimate #3 in the amount of \$280,981.12. Motion carried. Schuster suggested scheduling a public works committee meeting to go over punch list items.

Airport Snow Removal Contract Renewal

Motion by Schuster and second by Seedorf to approve a one year renewal contract for Rick Herman for airport snow removal. Motion carried 3-1 (Herman abstained).

Fire Contract Rates

Informational item only. Ms. Leslie stated fire contracts are up for renewal and typically the increase in price has been based on an arbitrary number. This year, staff is going to provide council with an analysis of real numbers to base any proposed changes and that information should be available at the next meeting.

HRA Bylaws

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve HRA Bylaws as presented on pages 20-23 of the council packet. Motion carried.

USC Post-Prom Committee 5K Color Run, October 26th at 1 pm

Ms. Leslie informed the council that the post-prom committee wishes to host a 5K color run (throwing colored baking soda at participants). A portion of the run will take place on the golf course. Motion by Herman and second by Seedorf to approve the Post-Prom 5K Color Run while avoiding throwing color on the golf course. Motion carried.

CD Maturation #100270220, 24 MO

Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to reinvest CD 100270220 at a local institution with the best rates. Motion carried.

Mary Thompson, 229 7th Street SW, Damage Claim

Ms. Leslie stated there was an incident involving a van parked on the street during tree-trimming and it appears that after the street crew left, a dead branch fell and damaged the windshield on the vehicle. Leslie stated both the police department and street department visited the site and took pictures of the branch and vehicle after the fact. Pyzick stated they did not cut branches above the van but near the van that day and because it was very windy, some sawdust did land on the van. Leslie stated this appears to be an unfortunate coincidence due to the large amounts of dead branches in trees from the last few storms. Motion by Herman and second by Schuster to deny the damage claim. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Recycling Program

Ms. Leslie informed the council that the recycling hauler for Faribault County stated the only way he would be able to implement a tiered billing for commercial customers was if the rate was started at a higher rate than \$10 per month. Leslie stated if the council did not want to adopt such a plan, another option would be to keep the drop site open for the townships and let the commercial recyclers contract

services on their own accord. Mayor Gaines stated he felt that was the best option at this point. Schuster stated she wanted to be fair but also be able to provide services to all customers. Leslie mentioned 60% of commercial survey respondents wanted to address their recycling needs on their own while only 33% of respondents wanted to keep the drop site. The council decided there was no perfect solution but would try the county program. Motion by Herman and second by Seedorf to approve the proposed Faribault County recycling services (residential curbside at \$41/year, drop site for townships with County paying City \$1000/month for use of recycling center and drop site for businesses with businesses paying \$10/month with all programs managed by the county). Motion carried.

Tax Forfeitures & Maintenance

Informational item only. Ms. Leslie wanted to inform council members that all properties placed on a six month hold have to be maintained by the City during that item and suggested acting on these items sooner than later. The council directed Ms. Leslie to verify if the HRA is interested in the lots first.

COUNCIL REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Gaines- Asked about fall sump pump notices.

Councilmember Herman- stated he would like to revisit the fences setbacks and adding requirement for surveying, questioned if there was a fee for land use permits and to check with WPU regarding their input on the setback issue.

Councilmember Schuster- Reminded Ms. Leslie to schedule a public works subcommittee.

Councilmember Seedorf- none

Mayor Gaines reminded the Council that the next meeting will be held on Monday, October 27, 2014 at 4:00 pm at the Wells Community Center Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to adjourn the meeting at 6:40. Motion carried.

Mayor Ronald Gaines

Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck