



**City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 8, 2014, 5:00 pm
Wells Community Center**

The Wells City Council convened on Monday, December 8, 2014 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chamber.

Mayor Gaines called the meeting to order with the following councilmembers present: John Herman, Ann Marie Schuster, Ashley Seedorf and David Braun. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck, Police Chief Jim Ratelle and Street Department Foreman Mike Pyzick.

AGENDA

The agenda for the December 8, 2014 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Braun and second by Herman to approve with the addition of Seasonal Department Resignation and December 4, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

SEWER ANALYSIS/BUDGET WORKSESSION

Peter Meidal from Northland Securities was present to discuss the proposed Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer increases for utility users. Meidal also stated most users are under the 3,000 gallon mark and the tiered system is largely designed based on that. Seedorf stated she prefers the 3,000 gallon tiered system as well. Meidal stated it is a larger impact on the higher commercial users than it is on the residents.

BUDGET WORKSESSION

Ms. Leslie updated the council on changes made to the preliminary budget. Leslie stated \$85,000 of original budgeted Capital Expenditures has been cut down to about \$15,000. Leslie stated after the 2014 audit is completed a fund transfer could be made to the Capital Equipment fund if the reserve balance is healthy enough for these needed items that were cut. Leslie also stated the debt service fund is increased from 2014 by \$58,000 due to street projects and the general fund was increased by \$77,217, and the library was reduced by \$6,000. The overall levy amount for 2015 would be an increase of \$94,217.

Ms. Leslie also informed council members on the updated fee list. Ms. Leslie stated the non-sufficient funds, burn permits, and building permit base fees have all been increased, as well as swimming lessons and pool rental fees.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

Mayor Gaines opened the meeting to the public. Hearing no comments, Mayor Gaines closed the meeting to the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve November 24, 2014 and December 4, 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Payments

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve payments in the amount of \$119,070.66. Motion carried.

Seedorf left the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Board Reports/Minutes

Motion by Seedorf and second by Braun to approve Flame Theatre November 2014 Minutes and Wells Historical Society December 2014 Minutes. Motion carried.

Staff Reports

Police Chief Jim Ratelle informed Council about problems with snowmobiles driving too fast and tearing up the parks. Ratelle also informed board members that call numbers are up for 2014 due to better documentation by officers. Ratelle stated due to recent officer involved shootings nationwide, there is going to be a push for body cameras which can cost anywhere from \$200-\$500 and there is a Lexipool policy training manual service available for around \$1,000 per year. The current Post Policy used does not include federal regulations.

Street Department Foreman Mike Pyzick stated fall work has pretty much been stopped because of the cold and snow and that the department is ready for plowing season.

City Administrator Robin Leslie stated she will be taking vacation time starting December 16th but will be available by phone or email.

NEW BUSINESS

Theatre Board Resignation- Ron Hartman- Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to approve Theatre Board Resignation from Ron Hartman with regret.

Resolution 2014-18 Establishing New Capital Threshold Policy- Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve Resolution 2014-18 Establishing New Capital Threshold Policy. Leslie stated this particular resolution amends the Capital Threshold from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and will make the auditing process a little easier. Motion carried.

Resolution 2014-19 Setting Fees and Rates- Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to approve Resolution 2014-19 Setting Fees and Rates with removal of Gun Club rent and Police Department false alarm fee. Motion carried.

Resolution 2014-20 Setting Non-Union and Part-Time Employee Wages for 2015- Motion by Herman and second by Schuster to approve Resolution 2014-20 Setting Non-Union and Part-Time Employee Wages for 2015. Leaving all part-time police officer pay at \$15.50. Motion carried.

Resolution 2014-21

Resolution 2014-22 Adopting the Proposed 2014 Tax Levy Collectible in 2015- Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to approve Resolution 2014-22 Adopting the Proposed 2014 Tax Levy Collectible in 2015 as follows:

General Revenue	\$517,647
Library	\$60,000
Debt Service	\$234,000
Capital Equipment	\$15,000

Total \$826,647

Councilmember Schuster stated with it being a very tough budget year, and that the amount of time and care taken to create this budget, all department heads need to understand that these budgets are not suggestions and that it needs to be followed very closely. Motion carried.

2015 Council Committee and Appointments- Motion by Braun and second by Herman to approve 2015 Council Committee and Appointments as listed on page 20 of the council packet with the addition of Scott Berg to the Theatre Board. Motion carried.

2015 Council and Board Meeting Schedules- Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve 2015 Council and Board Meeting Schedules. Motion carried.

2015 Lutheran Social Services Rental Contract- Community Center- Motion by Schuster and second by Herman to approve 2015 Lutheran Social Services Rental Contract as listed on pages 23-24 of the council packet. Motion carried.

2015 Tobacco Renewals- Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve 2015 Tobacco Renewals as listed on page 25 of the council packet, with Dollar General contingent upon submittal of required paperwork and fees. Motion carried.

Snowmobiles in City Parks- Schuster stated she would like to see extra patrols and possibly more signage done before changing the ordinance. Herman stated he would like to see some warning given in the paper and if things don't improve changes can be made. No action taken.

Seasonal Department Resignation- Jeff Teskey- Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve resignation from Jeff Teskey effective immediately. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Sewer Rate Analysis- Peter Meidal, Northland Securities- Councilmember Herman stated he dislikes the fact that the business will take the biggest hit but feels it is the fairest plan to the most people.

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to accept utility rate study and its recommended increases (as listed below) Motion carried.

Sanitary Sewer Base Fee (Residential and Commercial) \$18.02
\$2.40 per 1,000 gallons of Sanitary Sewer from 0-3,000 gallons
\$4.20 per 1,000 gallons of Sanitary Sewer from 3,000 and over

Storm Sewer Base Fee (Residential) \$7.09
Storm Sewer Base Fee (Commercial) \$14.18

COUNCIL REPORTS

Braun- none.

Schuster- stated it has been a great opportunity working with all board members and Robin.

Herman- stated he will miss Ann a great deal.

Seedorf- none.

Gaines- stated he appreciates every drop of information Ann has brought to the Council over the years.

City Administrator- stated that Ann has been an invaluable help to her and would have been lost without help when she started here.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Braun and second by Herman to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. Motion carried.

Mayor Ronald Gaines

Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck