



The Wells City Council convened on Monday, November 23, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chamber.

Mayor Gaines called the meeting to order with the following councilmembers present: David Braun, Steve Burns, and Whitney Harig. Council members absent: John Herman. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck, City Engineer Travis Winter, City Attorney David Frundt and Chief of Police Tim Brenegan.

AGENDA

The agenda for the November 23, 2015 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Braun and second by Harig to approve with the addition of Snowmobiles in City Parks and Resolution 2015-29 Adopting & Certifying 2015 unpaid bills. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leroy Giese was present and stated that he would like to know what has been determined regarding the code enforcement complaints he made against his neighbor, Rick Meyer. City Administrator Leslie stated that there is a utility easement being used by Mr. Meyer and as long as nothing permanent is placed within the easement, he can continue to use it for storage purposes. She also stated that there is no way to know if Mr. Meyer is in violation of the impervious surface ordinance without having a survey done of the property and that the City is not interested in paying for a survey. In addition, she stated that Mr. Meyer was allowed the square footage overage by a prior City Administrator.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Harig and second by Braun to approve the consent agenda as listed on pages 1-3 of the Council packet. Motion carried.

Minutes, November 16, 2015

Probationary Employees-Remove from Probation- Tyler Linde, Angela McCormick, Hunter Malwitz

STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Leslie updated the Council on the old school site, stating that it did not pass soil boring tests and that the school will not be able to sell that property until those tests have cleared.

City Engineer Travis Winter discussed priority areas for mill and overlay and stated that he expects to hear the results of the TED grant application soon.

City Attorney David Frundt stated that he has an updated five year joint powers/subscriber agreement with the BCA that allows access to the database and e-citations and is requesting Council approval of the agreement.

Motion by Burns and second by Braun to approve subscriber agreement with the BCA. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

HRA Request- Cost Sharing for Housing Study- Motion by Harig and second by Braun to approve HRA request for cost sharing of \$3,000 for a housing study contingent upon the HRA obtaining a second estimate and using 2015 funds. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-29 Adopting and Certifying 2015 Unpaid Bills- Motion by Braun and second by Burns to approve Resolution 2015-29. Motion carried.

2015 & 2016 Commercial & Drop Site Recycling Review- Leslie stated that staff recently sent out invoices for 2015 commercial recycling and that the response has been very poor. She also stated that when the residential recycling program was put into place, the County requested that the drop site remain open for townships and commercial use but that many small business owners don't utilize the drop site and most businesses would rather contract for recycling on their own. In addition, she stated that the drop site creates extra work and expense for the street department and that the City should consider other options for 2016.

Motion by Burns and second by Harig to discontinue commercial recycling starting January 1, 2016 but leave the drop site open for township recycling only. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-27 Settings Fees & Rates for 2016- Leslie updated the Council on changes to the 2016 fee list including the police and fire false alarm fee of \$150 (after three false alarm calls), gun club rent of \$200 per year and other fee changes. Motion by Burns and second by Braun to approve Resolution 2015-27. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-28 Setting Non-Union and Part-time Wages for 2016- Motion by Harig and second by to approve Resolution 2015-28. Motion carried.

Snowmobile Use in City Parks- Leslie stated that after the recent snowfall, damage to both City parks has been reported again. She also stated that this was an issue last year as well, therefore she is recommending the Council pass a moratorium resolution on snowmobiles in City parks to prevent future damage and until the ordinance can be amended. Motion by Burns and second by Braun to approve Resolution 2015-30. Motion carried.

Budget Discussion- Leslie presented the Council with a draft general fund budget for 2016. She stated that the street department budget reflects a full-time position with a starting wage of \$19.04 per hour and that she took out contracted wages and costs for mosquito spraying and lawn mowing.

Harig stated that she has been questioned about staffing and that she would like Leslie to put the information regarding past staffing and positions together for her to be able to accurately respond.

Leslie stated that she has \$25,000 budgeted for consulting with FCDC for special EDA projects based on a one year contract.

Harig questioned the Leslie on the increase to the Administrator travel and meetings line item. Leslie stated that she did not budget enough last year and as a result was over budget for 2015. She stated she budgets for two annual conferences plus miscellaneous out of town meetings.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Gaines- None.

Braun- None.

Burns- stated he has gotten positive feedback regarding the City's financial support for the golf club.

Harig- None.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Braun and second by Harig to go into closed session to discuss Attorney-Client Privilege deemed permissible by Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subds. 3(b). Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Harig and second by Braun to go back into open session. Motion carried. The City Attorney started pending litigation was discussed and no action was taken during closed session.

Motion by Braun and second by Harig to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Mayor Ronald Gaines

Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck