



The Wells City Council convened on Monday, February 22, 2016 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chamber.

Mayor Gaines called the meeting to order with the following councilmembers present: Steve Burns, David Braun, Whitney Harig and John Herman. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, City Engineer Travis Winter and City Attorney David Frundt.

AGENDA

The agenda for the February 22, 2016 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Braun and second by Harig to approve with the addition of 2016 Mill and Overlay Contract and HRA Board Appointment. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve the consent agenda as listed on pages 1-12 of the Council packet. Motion carried.

Minutes, February 8, 2016

January Financials/Building Permits/Overtime/Comp Time

Renewal of 3.2 Liquor License

-Jakes Pizza, Renewal of On-Sale 3.2 Liquor License

-Casey's General Store, Renewal of Off-Sale 3.2 Liquor License

Board Minutes

-Wells Flame Theatre Board, January 2016

-Wells Community Ambulance, January 2016

-Wells Library Board, January 2016

STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Leslie stated that she is in the process of finishing performance evaluations and that she has been meeting with department heads to discuss their 2016 goals.

City Engineer Travis Winter stated that the SRTS contractor will start work once the frost leaves the ground (scheduled around May 15th) and that they are aware of the June completion date. Winter also stated that he is looking forward to starting work on the Wells Business Park.

BUSINESS

Prairie Lakes Transit- Jeremy Monahan, Transit Director- Prairie Lakes Transit Director Jeremy Monahan stated that the new transit system, where the merger of the Faribault and Martin systems were mandated by the state, started on January 2nd and that he is still working on scheduling changes and improving the efficiency and ridership within the program. Monahan also stated that there were no changes to the service at Broadway Apartments.

Faribault County Ditch 87 Repair- Travis Winter- Winter stated that Faribault County Ditch 87 drains the majority of the City and that the vertical headwall is failing. Winter stated that he

recommends the City upgrade the piping from 66" to 72" in addition to televising abandoned piping and manhole before removal. Motion by Braun and second by Burns to authorize recommended repairs and televising required before abandoning any infrastructure on County Ditch 87. Motion carried.

Resolution 2016-08 Approving Minnesota Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit for a Raffle for St. Casimir Catholic Church- Motion by Burns and second by Harig to approve Resolution 2016-08. Motion carried.

Recycling Program- Leslie stated it is in the best interest of the City to get out of the recycling business altogether because it no longer makes business sense to be involved in a venture that is neither an efficient use of staff time nor pays for itself. Leslie also stated that she is recommending closing the township drop site and to let the County make their own arrangements.

Motion by Herman and second by Burns to allow use of the drop site for county recycling until June 30th at a rate of \$1,000 per month and if the County is willing to pay that rate, the drop site is to be relocated immediately. Motion carried.

Leslie also stated that she had received a request from Covenant Life Church to waive two of the three recycling charges. It was the consensus of the Council to deny their request based on setting a precedence set for other businesses.

Review of 2015 Goals/Set 2016 Goals- Leslie recapped 2015 Council goals and priorities which included Frank Brothers Elevator demolition, SRTS project and planning, blight removal, liquor store remodel and updates to the personnel policy.

Harig stated that she would like to work on community engagement and that she would be interested in submitting a monthly informational column to the Wells Mirror. Harig also stated that she wants to focus on completing a marketing plan and securing a user for the SIP. In addition, Harig stated that she thinks the City should look into going paperless for Council meetings and other City business.

Braun stated his goals for 2016 are the NIP/WBP, improving the welcome to Wells signs, selling the fire trucks and retrofitting street lights.

Burns stated he would like to focus on a new ED consultant orientation and the Frank Brothers Elevator property.

Herman stated he wants to make sure the City has positive PR for projects and makes long term decisions instead of short term fixes.

Gaines stated he would like to assist the school with the old school site.

Mill and Overlay Contract- Leslie said the low bid for 8th Street SW and 6th Ave SW mill and overlay was over the \$50,000 budget but she would like to move forward with the recommended repairs, which will total approximately \$55,000 but will do more for 6th Ave SW than planned. She also stated 6th Ave SW is now one of the most heavily travelled streets because of the new school. Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve low bid from Ulland Brothers as recommended by the Street Foreman and City Engineer. Motion carried.

HRA Board Appointment- Motion by Burns and second by Harig to appoint Cal Steele to the open HRA Board position. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Braun- stated that the HRA is going to advertise for bids for demolition of the Murphy property and that there are old cars on the property that have to be dealt with first. He also requested a SRTS update about the Weber property.

Leslie stated the City is moving forward with the project regardless of Mr. Weber's concerns because he has had over two years to make his case regarding property right-of-way lines. She stated it is in the interest of the public to move forward.

Burns- none.

Harig- stated that the Theatre Board raised pop prices recently and that they have been working on a marketing plan to find out where the majority of the customer base comes from.

Herman- none.

Gaines- none.

Motion by Harig and second by Herman to go into closed session. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION- Per Attorney-Client Privilege (Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b))

Motion by Braun and second by Harig to go into open session. Mayor Gaines stated that there was no action taken during closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Harig and second by Braun to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Mayor Ronald Gaines

Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck