

Walnut Grove, MN

September 14, 2015

The City Council met in a regular session on the 14th day of September 2015 at 7:00 PM in the City Office.

Present: Greg Hansen, Leonard McLaughlin, Xiong Yang, Todd Harrington and Jeff Harnack

Also present: Dillan Robinson, Tom Hansen, Kerwin Armitage and Mike Zeug

Mayor Hansen presided at the meeting.

Kerwin Armitage presented the Water/ Wastewater report. Kerwin has cleaned the water main and curb stop boxes. Jetting has been completed in town. The MN wastewater NPDES permit renewal forms for the city have been completed and will be sent in. The fee is \$1240.

Dillan Robinson reported that the Loggers will be installing the new swings and equipment at Ferguson Park.

Tom Hansen presented the maintenance report. He will be ordering pea rock for the new equipment at Ferguson Park. Bargain will be in town within the next couple of weeks to complete 10-12 more infrared patching around the manhole covers. The cost will be \$250 each.

Troy Walsh, Loss Control Consultant and Public Works Specialist from the League of Minnesota Cities visited the city Aug. 27. He performed an ergonomics survey with Tom Hansen and the city. His recommendations include determining an Occupancy Limit and posting the limit at the Bar & Grill. He also recommends obtaining knee pads for Tom and installing a ceiling or overhead hoist to reduce manually handling of snowplow blades and other heavy tools and equipment.

The Principal and Interest payment for Country View will need to be paid in October and there are not enough funds in the account to make the payment. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to transfer funds from the EDA Revolving Loan Fund to cover the shortage. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Xiong Yang to approve Land Use Permits for 320 Main Street for a cement patio, 131 Main Street for a carport, and 441 Wiggins for a deck. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on 2016 wages, benefits, rates and fees. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Xiong Yang to approve the updated 2016 wage scale. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on providing disability insurance for employees or increase the catastrophic sick pay. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Todd Harrington to approve the increase of catastrophic sick pay to a maximum of 880 hours that a full time employee can accumulate. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the employee cafeteria plan through Total Administrative Services Corporation. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Xiong Yang to approve the increase to this plan to \$600 per month. All voted in favor, motion carried.

2016 wages rates and fees were reviewed. The training wages were discussed by the council and it was determined that ambulance members will receive minimum wage for training hours and Fire Department members will remain at \$7.25 per training hours. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Xiong Yang to approve the wages, rates and fees schedule for 2016. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The 2016 budget was reviewed by the council. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Xiong Yang to approve the Preliminary Budget for 2016 with a tax levy of \$224,000 to be certified to the County. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Xiong Yang for the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing to be held December 14, 2015 at 7 PM. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Todd Harrington to approve the Minutes for the

August 10, 2015 regular meeting. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by, Leonard McLaughlin Second by Jeff Harnack to approve Claims #37307 through 37382. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey
Clerk-Treasurer