

MINUTES OF ELLENDALE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2018

Present were: Mayor Russell Goette, Council Members Steve Engel, Duane Goebel, Stephanie Kibler and Scott Groth

Absent: None

Visitors: Steele County Times Reporter Dennis Marshall

Also in attendance: Clerk Lee Ann Hojberg, Fire Chief Logan Busho

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Goette at 7:30 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Stephanie Kibler to accept the new handed out agenda. Motion carried.

Fire Department Update:

Fire Chief Logan Busho was present. He shared that the mold had come back on the wall that was just painted. Not sure what to do next. We will probably need someone to come in and take a look at this. The mural that was to be painted on the wall is on hold for now until we find out what needs to be done. The person doing this is also suggesting that we do this on sheets of metal instead of on the wall.

Next Logan shared that the AFG grant for the air pacs was received. They received \$138,000 from this grant. The fire department will need to also put in about \$10,000 to help with the rest of the air pacs cost. Because we were awarded the grant the \$1000 we had paid to write the grant will be given back to us. Stephanie asked the Fire Department to work with her to do a press release letting the public know about the grants they received.

Next Logan asked for approval to have the same person write 2 more grants for the fire department. Once is for a pressure station in the mount of \$1,000 and the other is for a rescue truck in the amount of \$600. A motion was made by Steve and second by Stephanie to approved paying \$1,600 to write these 2 grants.

Next Mayor Goette shared that he has been in contact with Mr Senske who owns the metal building out by Casey's. It was asked if he would consider donating the building to the City to use for the fire trucks. He will get back with Mayor Goette in a week or so.

Clerk Items:

MLS update: Ralph asked us to hire Suzann Halla as a part-time bartender. A motion was made by Stephanie Kibler and second by Steve Engel to hire Suzann Halla. Motion carried. Also, a motion was made by Stephanie Kibler and second by Steve Engel to accept the resignation of Trissa Johnson. She has decided that she did not want to work 2 jobs. Motion carried.

Maintenance Update: Lee Ann shared that the auto dialer is up and working at the Main Lift station.

GovPayNet is ready to go for Monday September 17th, 2018. LeeAnn did a test run this week and it seems to work just fine. It was very easy to use.

Next we need to approve Ordinance 2018-09-13 - An ordinance concerning the pay of the City Council Members and Mayor. A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Steve Engel. Motion carried.

Next Lee Ann shared that the community center bathrooms look great but was wondering if we were still doing the floors. It was shared that the ceramic tile in the men bathrooms needed to be replaced but that the rest of the floors were looking ok. It was shared that the tile had already been ordered and since we have all new counters in the bathrooms that replacing the floors would look nice. It was decided to go ahead and replace the tiles in the bathrooms. Stephanie shared the Coleen Brekke would be talking to me on how to care for the new counter tops.

Next Lee Ann shared information on the pay equity sheet for class 3 step 2 it looks like this should be \$13.86 instead of \$14.10 to be in line with the other class percentages. A motion was made by Stephanie Kibler to change class 3 step 2 from \$14.10 to \$13.86 to be in line with the other classes. This was second by Steve Engel. Motion carried

Next the final employee reviews are complete and how do you want to handle this. The council will meet on 9-19-18 in a closed meeting to discuss the final employee review and then will get them out to the employees to sign.

Office update is that the painting is being done. We will need to get a computer rack to attach to the wall so that we can finish painting. We are waiting to get a cost to rearrange to office.

Next it was discussed about the cost of a storage building for the Emergency Management supplies. Mayor Goette was thinking an 8 x 12 building. We will need to contact Jerry Ibberson on what he needs and when we need to get this by. A motion was made by Duane Goebel and second by Steve Engel to talk with Jerry and if he building we looked at meets with what he needs to go ahead and purchase the building.

Claims:

The claims were presented in the amount of \$31,302.58. After discussion a motion was made by Scott Groth to pay the claims as presented, second by Steve Engel. Motion carried.

Financial reports were review next. A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Duane Goebel to accept the financial reports. Motion carried

Minutes from 8-22-18 were next reviewed. A motion was made by Duane Goebel and second by Steve Engel to approve the 8-22-18 Budget work session minutes. Motion Carried.

The 8-23-18 council minutes will be held until the next meeting due to the whole report not coming through.

Minutes from 8-29-18 were next reviewed. A motion was made by Stephanie Kibler and second by Steve Engel to approve the 8-29-18 codification work session minutes. Motion Carried.

Mayor Items:

Mayor Goette shared with the council that he had received an unsigned letter from a resident about possible inappropriate use of equipment but with no name there is nothing that the city can do to resolve this. The council would like to ask people to come forward to them and shared what they have concerns about so that it can be addressed. In this case it could have been handled as there was no inappropriate use of equipment.

Next Mayor Goette shared that with working on the budget we need to look at the cost for the police service. It was shared that this needs to go forward to the County Commissioners. It was also shared that we do not want to cancel the police coverage but to renegotiate the cost that we are paying. Stephanie Kibler shared that she is aware of homes that are being watched for drug sales/use and that the school and business owners want us to keep the police force. She also shared that we would need to be added to a county commissioner's agenda to discuss this.

It was shared that we need to invite out County Commissioner and Sheriff Thiele to come to the next council meeting to talk about what we need to do. Duane will contact Commission Jim Brady. Stephanie also shared that this is sending a message to the public that we are not appreciating the police force. She also shared that we should also be taking a closer look on the spending and where it is being spent.

It was also shared that we should be making a decision by October 1 on what we want to do with the Liquor Store.

Open Discussion:

Council Member Groth shared that we have lights out in the meeting room at the Community Building. We will let Josh know.

Council Member Engel reported that there was a sales person up at the maintenance building demonstrating LED shop lights. They are 150 watts and about \$200 per light. There would need to be 5 lights. Not sure that Josh wants to do. Steve will talk to Josh about this.

Next Steve shared that we have been looking into QSERHRA as an option for healthcare for the full-time City employees. This option would cost about \$3700 to maintenance per year for the 3 employees. Not sure this is the way to we want to go because of the cost to administer and they suggest not administering this ourselves. The next option would be a taxable option but to give each employee \$500 flat. A motion was made by Steve Engel and second by Stephanie Kibler to give each of the 3 fulltime employee \$500 per month. Motion carried.

Steve will also be meeting with Marty Walsh and Deed on Friday September 28, 2018. This is regards to the purchasing of the Wood stream building.

Council Member Kibler shared that all her questions had been answered

Council Member Goebel asked where we are at with the part-time position. Mayor Goette shared that Aaron Halla is interested in working more hours. Need to contact Aaron to find out exactly what he wants to or is willing to work.

A motion was made by Stephanie Kibler, second by Steve Engel to close the regular Council Meeting to go into a Closed Meeting to discuss the litigation case. Motion carried. Meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

Motion was made by Stephanie Kibler to close the closed meeting and reopens the regular council meeting at 9:25 pm, second by Steve Engel. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Steve Engel, second by Stephanie Kibler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Lee Ann Hojberg City Clerk

09-13-2018
Date

The minutes are a true and exact copy of the minutes as they appear in the Cities Minute Book.