

GROVE CITY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

November 14th, 2016 @ 7PM

MEMBERS PRESENT- Drange, Peterka, Renne, Halterman, Nelson

ABSENT-None

AGENDA: Council Member Halterman made a motion to approve the agenda and Council Member Renne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Council Member Peterka requested Clark to change the previous months minutes, updating the fact that he would like to consider using a local attorney to assist with ordinance changes, not switch attorneys. After the update, Peterka made a motion to approve the minutes from October 11th, 2016. Council Member Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Bollig: Scott from Bollig came in to discuss the Infrastructure Project. Pay application #4 has been submitted for \$380,474.29. The next monthly meeting will be on 12/7/16. The work is winding down for the year, and they are preparing for winter shutdown. Reiner Contracting will be assisting with maintenance over the winter as needed. As far as the Wastewater Ponds Project, the MPCA still has not issued their comments on the plans & specifications, Bollig will respond to them as soon as they are issued. Permitting wise, they are waiting for EPA approval. Also discussed was the remodel that needs to be done in the city halls bathrooms to make them handicap accessible, which is a requirement in order to receive the various grants. There were 2 bids received with the low bid being CornerStone of Willmar, which Bollig recommended. The base bid was \$5,835 and an alternate bid of \$10,070 if the city wanted to redo the tiles in the bathroom. Peterka made a motion to accept CornerStone's base bid, Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Clark will contact CornerStone to inform them they were awarded the bid.

Sheriff Contract: Sheriff Brian Cruze was in to discuss the contract between the City of Grove City and the Meeker County Sheriff. The contract will be effective January 1st, 2017, through December 31st, 2018. The city will be provided with 2,080 hours annually, and the city agrees to pay the county \$44.50 per hour in 2017, and \$45.50 per hour in 2018. Nelson made a motion to approve the contract, Peterka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

West Central Sanitation- Don Williamson was in from West Central Sanitation. He presented the city with the past due list of residents, asking the council to approve assessing these amounts to the residents property taxes. He asked if there were any residents there that wanted to dispute their bill, which there was none. Peterka made a motion to approve the assessment list, Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Peterka also asked Mr. Williamson how residents at South Grove can dispose of their sharps container. Mr. Williamson said that as long as they are in an approved sharps container, they can be disposed of in the garbage, just please do not put them in the recycling containers.

David Euerle- Mr. Euerle came in to discuss the 2015 annual audit for the City. Mr. Euerle stated that the water fund was generating enough revenue to cover its expenses, but wasn't raising enough revenue to cover its debt payments, with the cash balance slowly declining. With the rates being raised in the beginning of 2016, he believed that would help increase the cash balance of the fund. The sewer fund increased significantly in 2015, which was mainly due to the financing received from the current sewer project. The electric fund is running a deficit, and is not generating enough revenue to cover its expenses. Mr. Euerle suggested looking into the study that was done in the past by David Drown, and to increase the electric rates as soon as possible. The South Grove fund generates enough revenue to cover its expenses, but doesn't generate enough to pay off its debt. He stated to try and keep the apartments full to help the fund.

David Martin asked Mr. Euerle how he thought the city's finances were over all, Mr. Euerle stated that some funds were good, but that the electric fund was in poor shape.

UNAPPROVED

Election Results: Clark presented the council with the abstract of votes cast in Grove City. David Martin was voted in as Mayor with 104 votes, Jesse Hudec and Jason McCoy received 64 votes each. James Renne and Karl Nelson were voted in with a 4 year council member term, receiving 198 and 159 votes respectively. Michael Halterman was voted in for a two year council member term with 222 votes. Halterman made a motion to accept Resolution 2016-8, a resolution certifying the results of the Tuesday, November 8th, 2016 general election. Peterka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Windmill: Clark informed the council that concerns had been brought to her attention regarding the deterioration of the Windmill. Peterka said that he had been told by a few people that they would be interesting in donating to a fund dedicated to paying for the restoration of the Windmill. Peterka made a motion that Clark set up a Windmill restoration fund, Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Donations will now be accepted.

Pay Raise for Council: Peterka made a motion for a \$200 raise across the board for 2017. Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The rates will now be \$1,200 a year for council members and \$1,500 a year for mayor.

Annual Township Meeting: The annual township meeting is scheduled for December 19th at 7 pm. Clark stated that she will inform the townships.

STAFF

FIRE: Chief Jans informed the council that December 3rd would be the annual supper for townships, employees, fire and council will be at Ron & Judys at 5pm. Jans also informed the council that they were considering doing a radar run, the cost will be \$1,200 and they should make around \$3,000. Jans stated that the flooring was done in the fire hall, and bills would be coming in regarding that.

The Santa Truck will be here Saturday, December 10th at 7:30 pm. There will be a free will donation spaghetti supper at 5 pm. Jans also inquired about getting donations to help pay for the Santa Truck.

SHERIFF- Deputy Swisher stated that there were 24 calls during the month of October. Peterka asked about getting signs regarding jake braking, Swisher stated that he thought that harvest season had a lot to do with it. Dustin was asked to look into the cost of getting signs.

CITY CLERK: Clark informed the council that she had been informed that the claim against the former clerk would not be covered under the bond coverage by the League of MN Cities. Clark asked for approval to assess one past due account to the residents property taxes. Nelson made to a motion to approve the assessment of the past due amount, Peterka seconded the motion. Motion carried. Clark provided the council with the City of Willmars ordinance that imposes restrictions on sexual offenders and sexual predators, and it was discussed that they would decide on it at the next meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS: Gaarder informed the council that November 30th there was a free class in St. Cloud that he would be attending for his hours required.

DRANGE: Mayor Drange asked Karl if he would share the website information with Lacey so she would be able to help keep the website more current. Nelson said he would share that information with Clark.

HALTERMAN: Council member Halterman asked about the status of the Welcome to Grove City signs, Gaarder informed him that the Lions Club was working on it.

PETERKA: Council member Peterka asked Gaarder to look into the rain gutters on the fire hall. He also asked if the Deputy Clerk could be trained on how to read the meters. Peterka also asked for thoughts about contributions for the gun club, or possibly requiring a membership to use the gun range to help with the cost of maintaining it.

RENNE: Council member Renne had looked into the pricing of using Missouri River for when Brad retires, he stated that it could be discussed more at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT Renne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Halterman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UNAPPROVED