

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2020

Present: Mayor: Todd Tongen Council Members: Carter Lokken, Todd Vogel, Cheryl Bjornstad, Jonathan Koenen, City Clerk, Nicole Koenen.

Mayor Tongen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Motion to approve Agenda by Tongen, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously

Motion to approve April 14th Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

Maintenance Report

John Groothuis could not make the council meeting so the council went over a list of tasks that need to be done. Painting parking lines, cut clean outs, mowing, clean up of sod and dirt clumps on properties where snow was piled, seed where needed, dump gravel from dump truck, spray and maintain lot by highway, gravel for alleys before dust control, and get black dirt to fill in where needed. Nicole will inform him of what was discussed.

Financial Report

- Cash Balances- Two accounts are either close to being over budget or already over budget. Discussion as to how to plan for more funding or cut spending where we can in these accounts to avoid overages. Unexpected repairs to the 03 Truck was the main reason for overage.

Motion to approve monthly claims by Tongen, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously

Old Business:

- Tree Removal Quotes- Quotes were provided to council for the removal of the Cottonwood located on the corner of Highland Ridge and Parsonage Lane. It is needing to be removed as it has many dead limbs that fall into the boulevard and its roots are starting to break up the road.

Motion to go with the quote for \$2,000.00 made by Tongen, 2nd Lokken m/s/p Koenen Abstained

The Koenens' have offered to pay for half of the cost to remove it. The tree will be dropped across the road and will block traffic. Nicole will have to send out a letter to residents on Highland and Parsonage to inform of the possible road closure.

- Security Cameras- Options for security cameras were provided to council. Discussion followed about the pros and cons of each option, and the cost of WIFI installation at the maintenance shop. It was decided to look for more options and also gather information from Farmers Mutual about a booster for next months meeting.
- Larson Home Demo- Richard Larson provided the city quotes he received for demolition of his house. He will be going with MAAC in which a payment agreement will be done. However, if he defaults on his payment arrangement the city will be liable for the cost. The City will also have an agreement with Richard stating that if they end up paying for the demolition then his property will be forfeited to them.

New Business:

- Chippewa County Assessment Agreement- It is time to renew our agreement with the county for assessment services. This agreement will be for the years 2021 through 2023.

Motion to enter Agreement with Chippewa County made by Vogel, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously

- Resident request for building permit- A resident provided the City with plans to extend their current garage and also add an additional shed to their property. The proposed plan shows the shed 15ft into a Dedicated Right of Way. Discussion over the location of the ROW and why the City would like to keep it open followed. It is in a location where there is potential for housing development in which the dedicated right of way would be used as a city street. The council discussed other options for the home owner. They could move the shed so its completely on their property but right on the line of the ROW. Another suggestion was they could move it to the back of the property, and then use the ROW as an access road to the shed. The council felt the garage extension was okay, but Nicole will have to call the resident and discuss the options provided by council.

City Clerk Report

- Resident Complaint- Nicole received a complaint from a resident about another resident's dogs being on their property and felt they were aggressive. Nicole sent out a letter to the dog's owner as she does with any complaint filed. Council discussed the situation as majority of them heard from the resident who owns the dogs either by phone, or by them coming to their place of work. Council agreed sending a letter to follow up with a complaint is the clerk's job.

Mayor Tongen adjourned the meeting at 8:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Nicole Koenen