

Finlayson City Council  
Regular Meeting  
April 8, 2019

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, April 8, 2019 by Ed Cowart, Mayor at 6:30 PM.

Council Members present: Joe Luedtke, Jeremy Byers, and Mike Drahosh

Others present: Wyatt Lucht, Bill Morgan, Alanea White, John Mikrot and Russ Lucht

Additions or Corrections:

- F: Community Club Bingo license
- G: Tax Incentive for Business

Mayor Cowart advised the council of two incidents that occurred recently at the Liquor Store. Neither incident involved any staff but do require some changes to how we handle big event days. We will look at implementing the use of different colored wrist bands to distinguish between under and over 21 patrons at events like 4<sup>th</sup> of July and St. Urho's Day.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion by Drahosh to approve minutes from March 11, 2019 regular council meeting, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Lucht indicated that March had six medical calls and one fire call, for a total of 34.5 man hours. DNR grant for a match of 50/50 was applied for. The safety wall on the top of the office and bathroom area used as storage was built as required by OSHA. There will be an extraction training on 4/15 using two cars that were donated to the Fire Dept. MedCompass will be here in July for our bi-annual physicals. The plow truck box is in need to sandblasting and painting as the snow gets stuck in the box. Roberts Excavating quoted \$500-600. We are waiting on a quote for the painting for another party. A motion was made by Drahosh to allow the sandblasting and painting at a reasonable value, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot reported the leak testing company is on hold until residents have stopped running water due to freeze ups. Hydrants will be flushed and Jetting will be done either the end of April or beginning of May. Mikrot to obtain a quote on bi-annual lift station maintenance for pipe cleaning.

Zoning and Planning: Northern Contractors has advised the city of the desire to build 6 new homes in Finlayson this year. Additionally, two businesses have approached Skaff about the old Knight Tool factory.

Nicole Bjorklund City Administrator: Bjorklund gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating March 2019 had a net income of over \$18,000 for the month which the majority came from St. Urho's day. The annual audit has been rescheduled again for April 17-19.

A motion was made by Byers to accept March financials and pay bills seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.

Old Business:

New business:

- A. Pine County Auditor's office has proposed that we switch to mail ballots for future elections. This would be a cost savings and reduce the need to find election judges. A motion was made by Drahosh to switch to mail ballots, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- B. The sidewalk around the City Hall is in need of repairs. There have been several people that have fallen or tripped over the heaving areas. Nicole to put publish ad in paper for bids.
- C. The liquor store parking lot is also in need of repairs due to numerous potholes. Nicole to call Brian Roth for a quote.
- D. Stray cats are an issue in the city, specifically several residents have complained about them. Nicole to put a notice in the water bills and on the website indicating residents are to refrain from feeding them and to call City Hall with a description of the animal to hopefully remove them from the City.
- E. Transfer of funds from the Liquor store fund to the General fund of \$25,000 motioned by Drahosh, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.
- F. Community Club has submitted an application to the City for Bingo on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. A motion was made by Byers to approve the application, seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.
- G. Skaff suggests that in order to bring in new business to the City that we look into offering some kind of tax incentive. Nicole will check with other cities and the county to see what can be done.

A motion made by Luedtke to adjourn, seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator