

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
December 11, 2017

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, December 11, 2017, by Ed Cowart, Mayor at 6:30 PM.

Council Members present: Joe Luedtke, Tom Price, Jeremy Byers

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Bill Morgan, Natasha Watercott, Mark Hansen

Additions or Corrections:

Sportsman's Club raffle application for St. Urho's

Approval of Minutes:

A motion by Luedtke to approve minutes from November 13, 2017 regular council meeting seconded by Price with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Lucht Wyatt reported 9.5 man hours for November for 2 rescue calls. The year 2017 to date has had a total of 86 combined fire and rescue calls. An air leak has been discovered in the tanker truck and has been temporarily patched. The snow plow truck has been working great but will likely need to have the chains put on it in the near future. The sprinkler system located in the fire hall for the Municipal had an air regulator malfunction which was fixed by Summit Fire. There is a Township Fire Contract meeting January 3, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Fire Hall.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: John reported that the lift station pump on Front Street has been replaced with a refurbished pump at a cost savings of \$4,000 compared to buying a new one. Additional, one of the floats in the lift station was also replaced.

Mark Hansen, Zoning and Planning: the City of Finlayson was awarded judgment on the Friel blight case in which Friel has until December 27, 2017 to correct the blithe issues. If the issues are not corrected by then, the City then has 6 months after that to go on to the property and correct the issues. Olsen has paid the \$200 for not obtaining a building permit prior to constructing a patio/concrete structure. Demolition of the Anthony house on Front Street has been completed. Email has been sent to the Attorney regarding the personal property that has been stored on the City land to the West of town.

Nicole Bjorklund City Administrator: Bjorklund gave overview of the Liquor stating November was a very good month for the Municipal with the Sportsman's Club holding their annual Gun Raffle and Hunter's Grill food truck sales were up nearly \$13,000 compared to last year. Some changes at the Municipal Bar include the addition of two serving stations. Credit card sales now are able to include tipping of the bartender when at the Municipal. The dart board machine has been removed and is in the processes of being replaced with a 55" flat screen TV. We will be

looking further into insulating above the ceiling tiles and/or adding acoustic panels in the Municipal to reduce the noise level during busy times. Most of the beaver dams that are causing water issues/flooding in town have been taken care of for this year. Bjorklund had a meeting with Dave Neiman from MRWA to review the Wellhead Protection Plan for the City's Drinking Water Protection. The current 10 year plan will be finished December 31, 2017 and then new one will take effect after that. The WHP indicates that our drinking water is at a high vulnerability and this plan will help to mitigate some issues over the next 10 years. Insurance policy for the city was reviewed for renewal, minor adjustments were made for more accurate coverage. Yearend inventory counting will be done January 1, 2018 while business is closed and will be audited upon completion the same day.

A motion by Price to accept November financial and pay bills seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Old Business:

- A. Blight Anthony: The demolition has been completed.
- B. Friel blight: Judgment awarded to city. Proceed with cleanup of property if owners' have not completed it by December 27, 2017.

Old business:

- C. 2018 Attorney Contract for \$165/hr, motion by Byers to approve contract, seconded by price with all in favor and carried.
- D. 2018 Annual Audit letter indicating our mutual agreement for Althoff to do our annual financial audit for year ending December 31, 2017.
- E. 2018 Final Budget/2018 Final Levy – Council gives general agreement to 2018 final budget with an addition of employee raises for 2018 with motion by Price, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- F. Resolution 2017-10 for the final 2018 levy approved via motion by Luedtke, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.
- G. 2018 Wage increases of 3% for employees with employment greater than 3 months effective January 1, 2018
- H. Mark Hansen has announced his resignation as the Zoning Administrator but has indicated that he would be available for his replacement if there were questions/issues. One committee member position will be expiring December 31, 2017 and noticed were sent out with water bills indicating that interested individuals should contact City Hall. Mayor Cowart will attend the meetings in the coming year as the council liaison.
- I. Sportsman's Club was requested approval of having a raffle at the Municipal on St. Urho's day, March 24, 2018. Motion by Price, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

A motion by Byers to adjourn seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator