

Finlayson City Council - Regular Meeting
Finlayson City Hall
February 12, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, February 12, 2024 by Dave Auchter, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Joe Okun, Russell Lucht, Barb Morgan, Kim Schaefer

Council Members absent: none

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Randy Millner, Hayley Erickson, Mary Oetterer

Additions or Corrections: Remove D: – New Business, Add H: Fire Contracts, I: Performance Goals, J: Bike Trail and Split Rock Storage to Reports C.

Compliments and Complaints:

1. Morgan stated resident inquiring about new website.
2. Auchter asked about polling at City Hall instead of mail in; requested to find cost and expenses. Suggested to ask County for 2022 turnout breakdown.

Public Comments:

1. Mary Oetterer representing Crazy Mary's inquiring about a beer and wine license. Auchter advised will get on March Agenda.
2. Clark and Leslie Peterson willing to build and maintain a flower bed around the flagpole at Post Office/City Hall Bldg. Wyatt expressed concerns about snow removal and the plan will accommodate snow removal. Morgan motion to allow the flower garden Lucht second. All in favor and motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Morgan requests correction to Jan 8 2024 minutes New Business A: transfer funds to include "for year 2023".

A motion was made by Okun to approve minutes from the January 8, 2024 regular council meeting financials and pay bills, seconded by Schaefer with all in favor and motion carried.

Reports:

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Second quote from Tonka received with two different options; one was \$11,949.00 and other was \$15,400.00. Minnesota Pump is \$17,000.00 so Mikrot is asking for more clarification of cost breakdowns from Tonka. Mikrot will come back with actual figures in March. Okun motion for least expensive service pump option. Schaefer second. All in favor motion carried.

Hawkins estimate for cleaning media is \$12,357.00; it has not been done for approximately the past 15 years. Cleaning and pressure washing the lift station this year was questioned by Mikrot. MN Pump and Nelson to perform the work necessary. Motion made by Morgan to make lift

station improvements, seconded by Okun. Mikrot to pick up miscellaneous parts to keep on hand for repairs.

Randy Millner, Public Works: Brought up tires were left in ditches will bring to Anderson Recycling and have them bill the city. Snow Bucket for skid steer needs new edge. Morgan motions purchase, Okun second. All in favor motion carried. Will need to replace pole saw in near future Auchter will price for the next meeting.

Bobbi Eaton/Hayley Erickson, Lead Bartenders: Erickson said new vendors coming in. Mentioned possible punch cards for loyalty program. Electrical updates needed in kitchen are tabled until March.

Shelly Goodman, City Clerk:

Still working on employee handbook have not received too much feedback to date. Brought up new daycare in the elementary school and was advised no permit is needed due to being inside. Goodman will pass information on to school board member.

Dawn Tasler, Deputy Clerk: Tasler received call from Bolton & Menk offering to implement a GIS system for the City. Council advised to wait for the time being.

Wyatt Lucht (Fire Chief) Fire Department:

Reporting there were 7 calls this past month; 4 medicals, 2 fire and one motor vehicle accident. January had 48 resource hours. Brought forward Fire and Rescue SOP manual. Requesting Council to review and approve. Lucht asking for a more detailed profit and loss report for the fire department. Clerks to research and assist. Morgan offered help as well.

Zoning and Planning: Splitrock Storage has requested to build a 10 foot chain link fence rather than 6 ft fence for outdoor storage. This is approved stating must stay away from state right away. Sirena from Sandstone City Hall is not able to assist in our committee. Auchter has four interested candidates to be a part of it.

Old business: n/a

New business:

A: ADA Ramp on School Street @ Studio Lumen; Controlled by the State. Goodman to relay information back to Studio Lumen.

B: Water / Sewer Access Fees: Auchter request ordinance verbiage to be changed from “hookup” to “access” fees in ordinance and fee schedule. Goodman and Tasler to explain expense to contractors building new homes. Morgan inquired about back pay of fees- tabled until later date.

C: Ordinance 45 Update verbiage: Goodman said hours of operation are vague and contradicting need to update. Auchter requests a mission statement be added as well. Tabled until later date.

D: Ordinance 27 Fire Department Revision; Tabled until new SOP is approved

E: Resolution 2024-03 Standing Committees; Schaefer motioned and Okun second. All in favor motion carried. Committees are as follows:

1. Personnel Committee – Goodman, Morgan and Schaefer
2. Budget Committee – Tasler, Morgan and Schaefer
3. Public Works Committee – Millner, Lucht and Okun

A closed meeting was conducted to discuss the current positions of the lead bartenders. Motion made by Okun to terminate Erickson and Eaton, seconded by Lucht.

F: Rescind Motion regarding wage cap passed in 2022; Schaefer motioned and Morgan second. All in favor motion carried.

G: Clerk job description and wage; Clerk wage will be adjusted to \$26.00/hour retroactive to Jan 1 2024 per Auchter. Motion by Schaefer to approve wage Lucht second with all in favor. Motion carried. Morgan motioned Clerk wage temporarily be \$30.00/hour until a bar manager is hired Okun second. All in favor and motion carried. Morgan motions for Deputy Clerk temporary wage until March 31, 2024 will be \$25.00/hour then revert back to \$19.95/hour. Schafer second with all in favor and motion carried.

H: Fire Contract Payment; Morgan motioned to accept two half payments from township. Okun second with all in favor. Motion carried.

I: Goals and Performance; Goals needed for city in all aspects including net income for bar. No action taken.

J: Bike Trail Letter of Support; Okun motion to approve a letter of support for reparations of the bike trail within the area and Schaefer second. All in favor and motion carried.

A motion was made by Morgan to adjourn at 9:33 pm, second by Okun with all in favor and carried.

Shelly Goodman, City Clerk