

Finlayson City Council - Regular Meeting
Finlayson City Hall
June 10, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, June 10, 2024 by Dave Auchter, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Council Members absent: none

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Bill Morgan, Shelly Goodman, Dawn Tasler, Joe Luedtke, Craig Skaff, Randy Millner

2. Additions or Corrections:

Add to Old Business I Deputy Clerk wage

Add New Business G Shafer Memorial Wayside Rest

3. Compliments and Complaints:

Skaff questioned an invoice he received for a water/sewer access fee within his subdivision. He states an agreement was made with a prior council. Research to be conducted.

4. Public Comments:

5. Approval of Minutes and May Financials:

A. A motion was made by Lucht to approve May 13th minutes. Second by Schaefer. All in favor. Motion carried.

B. A motion was made by Schaefer to approve May bills. Second by Morgan. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Reports:

A. John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Lift station was serviced by MN Pump. High service pump is installed and running. Mikrot has requested a quote to rebuild old one for back up. Mikrot recommends looking into variable feed drive in the future. This could help with longevity of bearings and electric costs over time.

B. Randy Millner, Public Works: No equipment issues. Recommends looking into moving new tree planted at east entrance due to potential visibility issues as the tree grows. Auchter will look into it. Ordering parts for zero turn lawn mower for routine maintenance. Prepared for the 4th of July and will help in any way possible.

C. Joe Luedtke, Bar Manager: Luedtke gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating May 2024 had a net loss of \$7079.39. Reported profits are down due to extra pay period. New pizza freezer broke down, received credit from vendor. Would like to buy a new freezer at Quality Home in Sandstone. Also asking for a sprayer for kitchen to make

dishwashing easier and quicker. Okun motion that provided Luedtke stays within his equipment budget he does not need council approval to make purchases. Schaefer second all in favor. Motion carried.

Requesting to hire a kitchen lead part time to be responsible for cook training, ordering food from vendor and to work with bar manager to build and price menu items to make kitchen more profitable. Okun motion to approve request of hiring kitchen lead. Schaefer second. All in favor. Motion carried. Goodman to post employment opportunity on Facebook, City website, and printed at liquor Store.

D. Wyatt Lucht (Fire Chief) Fire Department:

Reporting there were 16 calls this past month; 15 medicals and 1 fire. April had 66 resource hours. The fire department will be holding a mandatory Blood and Airborne Pathogen class at Fire Hall on June 17th at 7:00 pm. (rescheduled due to trainer request). The Fire Dept will also be holding their annual pancake breakfast on July 4th from 0700-1000 at the Fire Hall. Tasler and Lucht will begin to look at Fire Department budget.

E. Shelly Goodman, City Clerk:

Blood and airborne pathogen class that Auchter requested information \$35.00 per employee to take online as opposed to at firehall. The league advised it is not a requirement for attendance. Goodman will attend as a volunteer. Goodman to let bar employees know training is open to them but not mandatory. June 24th – clerk training for election 4:15-5:15-Pine County Courthouse Boardroom Goodman will be attending. SCI Cable Franchise information-received check for fees \$11,145.23 going back to 2015. Payments will be made 12/31 yearly. Cannabis Meeting – June 18 1:00 in Sandstone. Tasler and Goodman will be attending and post early closure on city website. Audited financial statements to OSA will miss deadline due to new audit firm. Extension granted for 45 days, will send day after July city council meeting readout by Oberloh & Oberloh. Drainage ditch by Catholic Church/Mayer property. Per the Councils direction I will have Millner to weed whip and spray same as sewage ponds.

F. Planning and Zoning:

Working on comprehensive plan and waiting on Blandin Foundation grant decision. Reviewed model procedures. N Liebelt completed and turned in June 10th and Goodman handed out document for council to read and approve at July meeting. Committee is wanting to update blight, subdivision and zoning ordinances and would like public input. Morgan motion to approve officers and terms on committee. Okun second. All in favor. Motion carried. Officers and terms approved 1 year terms – Marge Haefner and Norm Kester. 2 year term – Josette Koets (Assistant Chairperson), 3 year terms – Nancy Liebelt (Recorder) and Rev Nate Konkel (Chairperson). Terms will start on January 1, 2025. There will be no half terms. Joe Okun (City Council Representative) Dave Auchter (Mayor) are non-voting members. Alternates are Dennis Liebelt, Bruce Pogatchnik, Jeff Flaws, If a Zoning Official/Enforcement Officer becomes necessary the job will be posted.

7. Old Business:

- A.* Banning Junction Sewer District and Finlayson Water and Sewer Rate adjustment: Goodman to fix typo and will be voted on at July meeting. Tabled.
- B.* Ordinance Fee Scheduled Fees – Goodman to fix typo and will be voted on at July meeting. Tabled. See Old Business A.
- C.* Speed limit feedback signs – the company to purchase from will be Traffic Logix or Mobotrex.
- D.* Public Safety Aide Okun motion to approve use of Public Safety Aide disbursement to purchase speed feedback signs. Schaefer second. All in favor. Motion carried.
- E.* Planning and Zoning Official/procedure and plan for monitoring/handling blight issues and land-use (building) applications. See 6F Planning and Zoning Report
- F.* CIP Crew for ditch by bike trail – Individual needing Community Service time cleaned ditch.
- G.* Resolution 2024-06 Adopting Employee Handbook – Lucht motion to approve handbook as written. Okun second. All in favor. Motion carried.
- H.* Adopt Job descriptions City Clerk/Deputy Clerk – Schaefer will send to LMC for review and bring for a vote.
- I.* Deputy Clerk wage – Schaefer proposed to set a new wage range of \$22.00-\$27.00. Deputy Clerk Tasler wage will be \$22 per hour effective immediately. Okun motion to approve. Schaefer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. New Business:

A: Closing City Hall on July 5th, 2024; Council agrees to closure due to the holiday the day prior.

B: SCI Franchise renewal; Okun motion to renew agreement. Schaefer second. All in favor. Motion carried.

C: Finlayson-Giese Lions liquor license for Hunters Feed in November Schaefer motion to approve liquor license for November 8th Hunters Feed at community center. Morgan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

D: Fireworks Permit for 4th of July; Okun motion to approve Pizzella fireworks permit. Lucht second. All in favor. Motion carried.

E: Drainage ditch easement in area of Water St and School St More research needed to confirm how best to move forward. Tabled.

F: Approve items to Planning Commission: updates to codification recommendations for subdivision, zoning, blight ordinances and update to Comprehensive Plan; See 6F Planning and Zoning Report.

G: Shafer Memorial Wayside Rest; Shafer family wants to donate for fixing monument. Hinckley-Finlayson Schools possibly own. Goodman to reach out to School Board member Angela Grochowski for more information.

A motion was made by Schaefer to adjourn at 9:14 pm. Morgan second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Shelly Goodman, City Clerk