

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
June 8, 2020

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, June 8, 2020 by Tom Price, Mayor at 6:30 PM.

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

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Bill Morgan, Barb Morgan, Vickie Oetterer, Bruce Nelson, Josh Martin and Alanea White.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Hedtke to approve minutes from the May 11, 2020 regular council meeting, seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.

Additions: E: Sewer Pond Fields

Resident concerns: Vickie Oetterer asked the council why the Pledge of Allegiance was not carried out at the beginning of the meeting as was done in years past. Council indicated that it had not been done in all of years the current members have been on the council. Oetterer asked if it could be considered as most other board meetings in our area do site the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made by Drahosh to say the Pledge of Allegiance beginning with the next meeting, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Wyatt Lucht reported that May had a total of 11 medical calls and four fire calls, for a total of 107.5 man hours. Canosia Fire Dept has an SCBA filling station enclosure that is OSHA compliant for \$1000. This unit is to contain an explosion during filling of an SCBA. A motion from Drahosh to purchase the unit was seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried. Drahosh public thanked Chief Lucht for his effort in securing 1500 feet of 1-1/2" fire hose free of cost to the department.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot worked with MRWA to get some hydrants fixed in May. Some additional ones will need repairs when parts become available. MN pump came for the annual pump inspection at the lift station. MN Pump and Mikrot indicate that the "T" in the pump is leaking and needs to be repaired. Cost will include parts and labor as well as a Vactor truck. Motion made by Drahosh to approve repair, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Zoning and Planning: See new business A and B.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Administrator: Bjorklund gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating May 2020 had a net profit of approximately \$800 and YTD we are at a net loss of \$3,000

with sales being down \$47,000. The old muni building in which a lease has been signed by DSE and the City of Finlayson for the use of the parking lot, is in the processes of being sold.

A motion was made by Drahosh to accept May financials and pay bills seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried

Old Business:

New business:

- A. Tom Price has submitted a building permit application for the building of a lean-to on his existing garage. A motion to approve the application and issue a permit was made by Drahosh, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.
- B. Mark Guss has submitted a building permit application for the building of a lean-to on his existing shed. A motion to approve the application and issue a permit was made by Byers, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.
- C. With businesses opening back up, Bjorklund asked the council about how to proceed with water billings considering we haven't been issuing late fees or doing disconnects under Gov. Walz executive order 20-14. An information bulletin was posted by LMC indicating that water shut offs should continue to be avoided until the peace time emergency has expired. Council indicated that we should proceed with late fees beginning July 1, 2020 by motion from Hedtke, seconded by Drahosh will all in favor and carried.
- D. With restrictions loosened on bar operations, the council discussed at length how and when the bar would open. Some restrictions to open would be 50% indoor seating capacity, bartenders would need to wear masks, face shields when within 6 feet of customers during face to face communication, cleaning routine, health screening recommendation for staff and customers and social distancing strategy for seating. Some staff voiced concerns with safety and staffing. All restrictions will be in place in order to address staff and customer safety. The bar could be open on June 10th according to the Governors orders but Bjorklund indicated that with everything that would need to be adjusted or ordered that we would not be ready to safely open by then. Monday, June 15 was an agreed upon date to avoid a busy reopening on a weekend. The discussion of what hours to be open was also considered. Given the potential for some staff not being able to return to working in the bar, it was agreed to open the bar Mon-Thurs 4pm-10pm, Fri-Sat 9am-midnight and Sun noon-6pm with off-sale hours being Mon-Fri 10am-10pm, Sat 9am-10pm and Sun noon-6pm. Pull-tabs, pool, bingo, meat raffle and cribbage will not be played at this time.
- E. Mayor Price indicated that a local resident approached him about caring for the fields with the sewer ponds. Troy Colsrud has done it in years past as a local farmer. Bjorklund to ask Colsrud if he wishes to continue.

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

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator