

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
September 14, 2022

The regular city council meeting was called to order Wednesday, September 14, 2022 by Tom Price, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Others present: John Mikrot, Erick Blaisdell, Bill Morgan, Barb Morgan, Lois Okun, Noree Wicklander, Greg Sorenson, and Vickie Oetterer.

Addition: F: Jacki Johnson Building Permit
G: Time cards
H: Bar manager/clerk
J: vacation
I: Termination of employees

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Luedtke to approve minutes from the August 8, 2022 regular council meeting, seconded Hedtke by with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Asst Chief Bill Morgan reported that August had 10 total calls, nine medical calls and one fire calls. Tina Welle was voted on to the dept by the fire dept, motion from Hedtke to approve new member Welle, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried. Mayor Price indicates that further new hires to the department should be halted until funds can be brought back up as new equipment is costly for new members and our current members need new equipment first. Blaisdell indicates that he was only initially brought on as physical assistance but has been informed that he will need to take the FF1 and FF2 training, which he does not want to do. SCBA tanks are in need of replacement at the cost of \$1300 each. SCBA discussion on hold until next meeting. Blaisdell brought up the fact of having a pumpkin patch on the City land near the sewer ponds and having residents donate towards pumpkins and have kids come to the fire hall to decorate them with the fire dept. Okun suggested a gun raffle like the Sportsman's Club does but hold it in the Spring possibly. A question was posed about grants available for the Fire Dept since funds are needed for more equipment. Bjorklund indicated that Diana Ristamaki had previously indicated she would assist the dept in finding and applying for grants.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot stated that he was getting a quote for the high service pump at the water tower because we only have one and if it goes out we are without water for the whole city. Hydrant flushing will be done Oct 2-8, 2022.

Zoning and Planning: See new business F.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Administrator: Bjorklund gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating August 2022 had a net loss of \$500 with YTD profit at approximately \$67,000. Beer price increases are coming again from the distributors in October. ECE land purchase is being finalized. Bjorklund is working on submitting the information for the sealing of the well at the Victor Shafer Park. Credit card processing fee surcharge paid by the customers for the Muni will be starting October 1, 2022. We have been paid out for the insurance claim of the theft of the fire nozzles of \$1178. We have also been paid out for the glycol chiller insurance claim for \$1471.50. The landscape timbers at the Victor Shafer Park are in need to removal and replacement. Price says to just remove and replace with whatever might be free if Blaisdell sees fit. During the bi-annual inspection of the post office and city hall furnaces the contractor reiterated the importance of replacing the units due to the age of them and continued need for replacement of parts. Council advises to get a quote on replacing the Post Office unit as it directly impacts more residents than City Hall.

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

Old business:

- A. Bjorklund notified the council that the repairs needed to the fridge at the Muni would be considered wear and tear and not covered by the insurance policy for breakdown coverage. Motion by Luedtke to approve the quote for replacing the evaporator coil on the fridge for \$885.77, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried. Bjorklund informed the council that the Muni has started serving burgers and chicken sandwiches with great success even without a griddle and fryer. Bjorklund is wondering if at this point if we even need to proceed with the hood upgrade as these are made in the oven and working fine as pre-cooked items. Council advised Bjorklund to continue with plan to modify kitchen and press on to find another fire suppression company as the one hired has been sitting on it for six months. Additionally it has heard that Crazy Mary's will be closed for the winter so we need to speed the process along to capitalize on the situation. Discussion on the leasing of the kitchen were brought up to which Bjorklund, Wicklander and Okun all indicated the strong feeling that it is a bad idea which would result in loss of control of the kitchen operations to someone else. Discussion on the leasing was tabled.

New business:

- A. Greg Sorenson, on behalf of the Community Club, is asking for assistance from the City for the 4th of July celebration. They are looking for the City to cover the full cost of the satellite toilets as well as the set up and take down of garbage bins and barricades. Motion by Luedtke to approve the City to take on the added financial and physical responsibility of the requested items, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried. Sorenson also indicated that the individual that does the fireworks is looking for volunteers to help with the fireworks display.

- B. Pine Lake Township has submitted a contract for plowing and grading. A motion was made by Byers to approve the contract, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- C. Sara Colsrud is asking for permission to have a private mini golf course on her property. Council indicates no ordinance addressing private use of land for mini golf course though she may not advertise or have public use of the land or charge for use of it and traffic on the road may not be affected by it.
- D. Bjorklund, Byers and Drahosh met as the Budget Committee on August 22, 2022 and provided the budget to the council for approval. A motion was made by Hedtke to approve the 2023 budget, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- E. Resolution 2022-12 is the Proposed 2023 Levy which was increased by 3% to account for the much higher cost of labor, repair and parts for everything. A motion was made by Byers to approve the proposed 2023 levy, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.
- F. A building permit application was submitted by Jason and Jacki Johnson for a garage. A motion to approve the application was made by Luedtke, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.
- G. Price would like everyone employed by the city on hourly pay to use a time clock instead of manually written time cards. A motion was given by Hedtke to approve time clock purchase and usage, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- H. Price would like to discuss at the next meeting the bar manager/city clerk positions separated as both positions deserve more time towards each individually. Council to consider for next meeting.
- I. Price indicates that if the clerk is going to be absent (vacation or otherwise) that at least two members of the council be advised.
- J. Price indicates that going forward for an employee termination that he or another member of the council need to be aware so as to not be blindsided when questioned.

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

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator