

TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, Council Chambers Monday, September 23, 2019 - 7:00 pm

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at City Hall, the Post Office, and on the City's website. Copies were emailed to residents requesting such, and the Press was notified.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was recited.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, Larry Julik-Heine, John Tangen, Mary Murphy

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer), Jacob Guzik (Engineer, Bolton & Menk), Denise Martin (Chisago County Press), Tammy Doughty-St. Hilaire (County Ledger Press), Geri Aanonsen

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Rivard / Murphy to approve the agenda as presented for the September 23, 2019 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Julik-Heine / Tangen to approve/accept the following Consent Agenda items: Minutes from previous meetings; Staff reports; Commission, Board, or Committee minutes/reports; Consider request from the Knights of Columbus to approve a Lawful Gambling Permit; Consider a donation to the Lighting Festival Committee; Approval of claims and payroll; and Correspondence. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

STAFF REQUESTS

Consider winter maintenance and plow training for the Public Works Superintendent and Maintenance Worker

Keeping the Public Works department up-to-date was discussed.

Motion by Murphy / Tangen to approve the Public Works staff request of training on October 2nd, 2019 at a cost of \$60.00. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the hiring of a temporary Coordinator-Zoning Administrator

Mayor Buchite mentioned that the previous Coordinator-Zoning Administrator had resigned on September 16th. He explained the City had reached out to Steve Heth to fill the CZA position on a temporary basis, which could be months or years. Steve has formerly worked for over 20 years as the City's engineer. Steve would be willing to work 24 hours per week on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, not to exceed 32 hours. He requested \$27.00 per hour. That is more than the previous CZA was paid. Mayor Buchite brought out that it will still be within the budget to hire him since he will be working less hours. Steve is available to start October 1st. Discussion followed.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Rivard to approve hiring Steve Heth as temporary Coordinator-Zoning Administrator at \$27.00 per hour, not to exceed 32 hours per week. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider shifting responsibilities to and increasing the hours of the Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Buchite explained that Clerk-Treasurer Elizabeth Nealley had agreed to work 40 hours per week instead of 32 hours. The mayor said that she has been filling in the gap made by the previous CZA's absence. He had been out of the office since mid-August. Mayor Buchite said that it made sense to put some of these duties back where they belong. These duties include taking minutes at Council Meetings and the budget process. John Tangen brought out that this would include rental of the Community Center, and anything having to do with funds. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to approve shifting the Council Meeting, budget, Community Center rental, and any fund-related duties back to the Clerk-Treasurer; and increasing the hours of the Clerk-Treasurer to 40 per week, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider payment to Prefer Paving for the entrance to Lift Station #1

Ross Rivard explained that the asphalt entrance to Lift Station #1 was falling apart and that it was field approved to have this fixed. The cost is \$5,000.00. Ross said that this was a good price since Prefer Paving was already working in town. The work can't wait to be done because it would take more work to fix it later - including grinding up the old asphalt. Discussion followed.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Rivard to approve payment of \$5,000.00 to Prefer Paving for fixing the asphalt entrance to Lift Station #1, to come out of the sewer fund. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consider request from the Knights of Columbus to approve a Lawful Gambling Permit

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the request from the Knights of Columbus to approve a Lawful Gambling Permit for a raffle event at St. Joseph Church on January 9th, 2020.

Consider a donation to the Lighting Festival Committee

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda to donate \$1,500.00 to the Lighting Festival Committee.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7660-7666 totaling \$4,875.82; as well as check numbers 30856-30873 and electronic check numbers 6302382-6302384 totaling \$234,236.49 for September expenditures.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mary Murphy

- Had nothing to add.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- Introduced Jake Gusik, the City's engineer. He mentioned the downtown MNDOT lot, and that Steve Heth will be working with Jake on that. Mayor Buchite mentioned that a new fire truck was being researched so that the council will have an idea of what it will cost. He emphasized that the City is not buying the new fire truck at this time. The City will need a new one by 2027. Mayor Buchite also mentioned that he would like to meet with the Commission Chairs about once per quarter.

Larry Julik-Heine

- Reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission did not meet because they did not have a quorum, but they will try to meet next week. They could use a few new members. He said that there is nothing new with the Highway 8 Task Force.

John Tangen

- Mentioned that the HPC is one member down.

Ross Rivard

- Had nothing to add.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Julik-Heine / Murphy to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this September 23, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, October 14, 2019