

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday October 3, 2018 at City Hall, the Post Office and on the City's Web Site. Copies were e-mailed to residents requesting such, and the Press was notified.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those present at the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, Larry Julik-Heine, John Tangen, Mary Jo Murphy

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Berklund – Coordinator/Zoning Administrator, Denise Martin – Chisago County Press, Greg Marsten – Inter County Leader, Geri Aanonsen – 347 W. Government Street, Bill & Geri Neska, Brandon Thyen – Sheriff.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION BY RIVARD/JULIK-HEINE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, FOR THE OCTOBER 8, 2018 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY TANGEN/MURPHY TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS; CONSIDER LETTER OF INTENT SUBMITTAL FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL; CONSIDER EXCLUDED BINGO FOR LIONS CLUB ON NOVEMBER 16, 2018; CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

Bill Neska – Retirement Plaque Presentation – Mayor Buchite presented Public Works Maintenance Worker Bill Neska with a retirement plaque for his 19 years of service to the City of Taylors Falls. He worked from July of 1999 to October of 2018.

Brandon Thyen – Chisago County Sheriff was in attendance to introduce himself as the new acting Sheriff for the County. He wanted to thank the Council for having such a great working relationship with them and that if we needed anything they could reach out directly to him.

Geri Aanonsen – HPC member was in attendance as her son had bid on the sidewalk project. Also that she invited Council members to any HPC meeting to see what they are up to.

STAFF REQUESTS

NONE

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT TO PAUL STENGER

Mayor Buchite reported that with the retirement of current Public Works Maintenance Worker Bill Neska on November 1, Taylors Falls advertised the position in the Chisago County Press, Wisconsin's Ledger Press and the League of Minnesota Cities website. Applications were received until Thursday September 22 with 11 received. PW Liaisons Ross Rivard and Larry Julik-Heine and PW Superintendent Mike Kriz reviewed applications and selected three of the qualified for interviews. Three interviews were held on October 3rd. Discussion resulted in a unanimous choice of Paul Stenger based on qualifications, past experience, pay range, and ability to work 40 hours Monday –Friday and every other weekend on call.

Motion was made by Council Member Julik-Heine, seconded by Council Member Murphy to offer the position and approve at the next Council Meeting, October 8, 2018 at a starting pay of \$24.00 per hour. Position was accepted and starting date has yet to be determined.

MOTION BY TANGEN/JULIK-HEINE TO OFFER POSITION OF PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER TO PAUL STENGER BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS, PAST EXPERIENCE, PAY RANGE AND ABILITY TO WORK MONDAY – FRIDAY 40 HOURS AND ON CALL AT A STARTING PAY OF \$24/HOUR STARTING AT A DATE YET TO BE DETERMINED.

CONSIDER PURSUING FEMA ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT

Council Member Murphy reported that we will once again go after a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters New Vehicle Grant. If awarded the grant it will help pay for a combination rescue/pumper fire-truck. This truck will replace both the 1986 pumper and the 2006 rescue vehicle. It is anticipated to cost around \$350,000 and FEMA has a 95/5% match so the City would be liable for about \$17,500. This cost would be paid for with the sale of the 1986 pumper truck which they anticipate receiving about \$25,000 for. FEMA places a high priority pumpers and a medium priority on rescue vehicles in rural communities. By combining the two we feel there is a very good chance of being awarded this grant.

Council was in agreement that this City has always looked for ways to take the burden off of taxpayers and we should go for it.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO PURSUE FEMA'S ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT TO CONVERT THE CURRENT RESCUE TRUCK TO A NEW PUMPER/RESCUE TRUCK.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT

Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz was in attendance to discuss that there is a portion of sidewalk that has undermined and is a safety hazard on Angel Hill and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Three contractors were contacted: Giller Masonry was too busy, Lawrence Creek Contracting at \$2,100 and Custom Finish at \$2,779.

Council Member Julik-Heine reported that we have worked with Lawrence Creek in the past and they have done a great job for us.

Council Member Rivard reported that this is a case where the City would pay for the entirety of the project due to the undermining as it is a result of water running off of our road. He discussed that some should come out of the

Stormwater Fund and since we put the sidewalk dollars into the Street Paving fund that the remainder should come out of the General Fund as it is a safety issue.

Council was in agreement that it is a safety issue and agreed on using the \$600 out of the Stormwater Fund and the remaining \$1,500 out of the General Fund as our reserves are very strong.

**MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO AWARD THE BID TO LAWRENCE CREEK CONTRACTING AT A COST OF \$2,100 TO BE PAID WITH \$600 COMING FROM THE STORMWATER UTILITY FUND AND THE REMAINING \$1,500 FROM THE GENERAL FUND CASH RESERVES.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CONSIDER SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR THE CLG/LEGACY GRANT FOR THE HPC ANGEL HILL DESIGN GUIDELINES

Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund reported that City staff recently received a letter awarding our request for Legacy dollars to cover the CLG match grant that was awarded earlier this year. We have a total of \$20,000 to spend on a Preservation Specialist for creating our Design Guidelines for Historic Properties project.

Staff and the HPC is requesting to solicit bids from Preservation Specialists (as recommended by MNHS and personally from Michael Koop from SHPO). Any project over \$10,000 requires a competitive bidding process with at least three vendors.

In order not to rush this, I recommend that staff takes time to research vendors and discuss with Michael Koop to get a qualified list. We will publish and send letters opening the bidding process on October 18th, and closing the bidding on November 8th and award at the November 12th Council Meeting.

Council had no comments and was in agreement to move forward.

**MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE HPC DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES PROJECT WITH THE BIDDING PERIOD OPENING ON OCTOBER 18, AND CLOSING NOVEMBER 8.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSIDER SUBMISSION OF SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL LETTER OF INTENT

Last year Mayor Mike, Council Member Julik-Heine and I met with Chisago Lakes School Superintendent Joe Tim, Director of Business Services Heide Miller and Elementary School Principal Jason Riebe to discuss the financial match for our Safe Routes to School Project. Using online estimated sidewalk and curb installation per square foot/linear foot, the project will run about \$250,000. This being an 80/20 match would put the project at a cost of \$50,000 for the City. This being a project brought to us by the School District we decided this would be a great partnership, along with being affordable, by splitting the cost 50/50, the school district agreed. Though it still is a \$25,000 contribution from the City, it is a four year program, which allows four years of budgeting \$6,250 per year.

We were not awarded it last year but were highly recommended to submit again, the numbers will stay the same.
THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO STAFF TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM.

CONSIDER SETTING DATE FOR TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO SET THE DATE FOR THE TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED DECEMBER 10TH MEETING DATE.

CONSIDER EXCLUDED BINGO FOR THE LIONS CLUB ON NOVEMBER 16

City Staff received a request from the Lions Club for excluded Bingo on November 16th (Turkey Bingo).

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM PUBLIC WORKS TO ATTEND THE MN MAINTENANCE EXPO IN ST. CLOUD ON OCTOBER 3, 2018 AT A COST OF \$50.00 TO BE PAID FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION FUND (101-43100-208).

CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST FROM CITY COORDINATOR-ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

THE TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB TO CONDUCT EXCLUDED BINGO AT THE TAYLORS FALLS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER ON NOVEMBER 16TH, 2018.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 30338 - 30413 TOTALING \$294,348.87 FOR SEPTEMBER EXPENDITURES.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine – reported that the Public works will be having a changing of the guard at the Maintenance Worker position. The PRC is meeting next week and will be discussing a tree donation. Lastly that the Hwy 8 task force meets this month and will be looking for dollars to conduct a safety study on Hwy 8.

John Tangen – reported the HPC would be meeting on Wednesday night and are still looking for a member. Also that the new Clerk-Treasurer is doing great so far.

Ross Rivard – reported that the PC is still on hiatus.

Mary Murphy – reported that the EDC will be meeting this Wednesday and that she is again certified for the Board of Review and Equalization.

Mayor Buchite – reported nothing new other than there were about 50 people at the cleanup day and that the tidbits would be coming out this week.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS OCTOBER 8, 2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Adam Berklund, Coordinator-Zoning Administrator

APPROVED: MARCH 11, 2019