

TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Hall, Council Chambers Monday, December 9, 2019 - 7:00 pm

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, December 4, 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 7:00 pm by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Elizabeth Nealley (Clerk-Treasurer), Jacob Guzik (Engineer, Bolten & Menk)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Mike Buchite explained that item #1 under Staff Requests - Consider vacation request for Public Works Superintendent would be moved to the Consent Agenda. He also said that item # 3 under New Business would be pulled from the Consent Agenda so that it could be discussed. Mayor Buchite explained that the Public Input Meeting: Truth in Taxation would take place at the end of the Council Meeting, to give the public more time to show up and not miss that portion of the meeting. Motion by Julik-Heine / Rivard to approve the amended Agenda for the December 9, 2019 Taylors Falls City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING: TRUTH IN TAXATION

This took place at the end of the City Council Meeting to give the public more time to show up. Mayor Buchite invited anyone from the public to speak at this time. No one came forward.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Tangen / Murphy to approve/accept the following Consent Agenda items: Minutes from previous meetings; Staff reports; Commission, Board, or Committee minutes/reports; Consider vacation request for Public Works Superintendent; Approval of claims and payroll; and Correspondence. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM - None

STAFF REQUESTS

COMMISSION, BOARD, OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

Library Board

OLD BUSINESS

Consider the Transportation Alternatives Project (TAP) Grant

Mayor Mike Buchite explained that the TAP grant was meant to cover three projects: installing a new ceiling in the Community Center, installing restrooms at Heritage Park, and building a retaining wall and sidewalk between the Springs Inn and the Chisago House Restaurant. However, a condition of qualifying for the Federal grant dollars is that a phase I archaeological investigation be done for each project, along with very stringent reporting requirements. City Engineer Jacob Guzik mentioned that he estimated the City would have to spend \$131,800.00 for the archaeological and administrative services (at a minimum) to receive \$146,850.00. Mayor Buchite suggested the City could move forward on its own with these projects. He said that he talked to Joe Triplett, the County Engineer, and that rejecting this grant would not hurt the City's chances of obtaining future grants. Discussion followed.

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to reject the Transportation Alternatives Project (TAP) Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Resolution 19-12-01 appointing an Election Administrator for the 2020 Elections

The City of Taylors Falls needs an Election Administrator. The Presidential Nomination Primary will take place on March 3, 2020. Chisago County says that all Election Judges for this election must be ones who served in 2018 because there is not enough time to train new people. The previous two Head Election Judges resigned, and only one previous Judge, Lesli Johnson, has agreed to serve as a Head Judge at this time. The other Election Judges will be appointed in February, per instructions by the County.

Motion by Tangen / Rivard to approve Resolution 19-12-01 appointing Lesli Johnson as Election Administrator and Head Election Judge for the 2020 Election at a payrate of \$10.86 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider proposal for the installation and programming of replacement water meters

Larry Julik-Heine explained that the previous company that had been approved by the Council in July to replace the meters, M&E Construction, did not show up or respond to any communication. He said that Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz was recommending the proposal from Core & Main to have 40 meters replaced at a cost of \$140.00 per meter, for a total cost of \$5,600.00. Discussion followed.

Motion by Rivard / Julik-Heine to approve the proposal for the installation and programming of replacement water meters from Core & Main at a cost of \$5,600.00 to be paid from the water fund (601-49400). Motion carried unanimously.

Consider payment to Prefer Paving for additional overage amount

Mayor Buchite explained that the additional payment amount was for overage when paving Folsom, Pine, and Colby Streets. Discussion followed.

Motion by Julik-Heine / Rivard to approve the payment to Prefer Paving for overage amounts when paving Folsom, Pine, and Colby Streets, at a cost of \$14,714.80. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider application for a new liquor license for Schoony's Malt Shop & Pizzeria

Mayor Buchite explained that James Schoonmaker of Schoony's Malt Shop & Pizzeria was applying for an On-Sale Wine License, On-Sale Strong Beer License, and an On-Sale Sunday Liquor License to go into effect January of 2020.

Motion by Tangen / Julik-Heine to approve the new liquor license application for James Schoonmaker, dba Schoony's Malt Shop & Pizzeria Inc, contingent upon receipt of required insurance and workers compensation documentation and correct signatures. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider the amended ARMER Radio Licensing Fee agreement

Mayor Buchite and Mary Murphy explained that there has been a series of meetings about making sure everyone in Chisago County is fairly charged for the ARMER Radio Licensing Fee. Mary said that at last week's meeting, it was agreed that the cost would be \$251.00 per radio from 2021 forward through 2024. However, it was already agreed at the time of 2020's budget process that it would be \$575.00 for 2020. Discussion followed.

Motion by Tangen / Julik-Heine to approve signing the amended ARMER Radio Licensing Fee agreement when it arrives. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consider vacation request for Public Works Superintendent

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda the vacation request for Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz for the dates of December 16 through 21, 2019.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

The City Council approved by Consent Agenda payment of payroll check numbers 7683-7692 totaling \$11,496.52; as well as check numbers 30918-30928 and electronic check numbers 6302394-6302399 totaling \$128,056.93 for the previous month's expenditures.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mary Murphy

- Reported that there will be an Economic Development Commission meeting on Wednesday.

Ross Rivard

- Had no new news from the Planning Commission. He mentioned that Public Works has been busy plowing, and that we should get the truck in a few weeks.

John Tangen

- Said that the Heritage Preservation Commission is taking a Christmas break.

Larry Julik-Heine

- Commended the Public Works department for doing a good job plowing. He also attended a Highway 8 Task Force meeting on November 18, 2019. There will be an open house on January 28, 2020 from 5:30 to 7:30 for an information update, including the design plan and opportunity for public comments. He also mentioned that Lars Heineke, the Scout who volunteered to fix up the covered bridge, was awarded the Eagle Badge on Sunday.

Mayor Mike Buchite

- Said that the City had their annual Christmas Party on December 6th, the food catered by Jon Ekstrom was outstanding, and it was a good time for all those able to attend. He also asked everyone to consider Larry and Deb Julik-Heine in their thoughts and prayers since they lost their dog.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murphy / Julik-Heine to adjourn the meeting of the Taylors Falls City Council held this December 9, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Elizabeth Nealley, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED

Monday, December 23, 2019