

**KASSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2014**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular City Council meeting was held at City Hall on the 10th day of December, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Coleman, Egglar, Hopkins, Worden and Nelson.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE ABSENT: None.

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Lenth, City Clerk Rappe, Community Dev Director Martin, Finance Director Zaworski, City Engineer Neil Britton, Fire Chief Fitch, Library Director Tiff, Earlene King, Library Associate Patricia Shafer-Gottschalk, Gretta Becay, Rick Erpelding, Jeff Stevenson, Councilperson-elect Buck, and Randy Carlson.

Mayor Nelson called meeting to order at 6PM.

COUNCIL

Agenda: *Motion by Egglar and second by Coleman, with all voting aye, to approve the December 10, 2014 agenda with the following amendments:*

Remove: A.2.h Certification to County – Bigelow Assessment

Consent Agenda: *Motion by Hopkins and second by Worden to approve the December 10, 2014 consent items. Ayes: Coleman, Egglar, Hopkins, Nelson and Worden. Nays: None.*

- a. **Minutes:** Approved the November 25, 2014 regular meeting minutes as submitted.
- b. **Claims:** Approved all claims paid after the November 25, 2014 regular meeting, as audited for payment in the amount of \$132,550.01.
- c. **Acknowledgement of Committee and Meeting Minutes:**
 1. Park Board 11-18-14 Draft
 2. EDA 12-2-14 Draft
- d. **Annual Evaluations:**
 1. Sandy Riedel Annual Eval Move to Grade 2 Step 7 \$16.09 Eff. 7/10/14
 2. Tom Ricke 6mo Eval/Remove from Probation Move to Grade 13, Step 2
 \$28.86 Eff. 12/11/14
 3. Nick Fitch 6 mo Eval/remove from Probation Move to Grade 8 Step 2
 \$20.59 Eff. 8/12/14
- e. **Conferences/Training:**

1. Steve Johnson Newly Elected Officials Training Mankato, MN Jan 23-24, 2015
2. Doug Buck Newly Elected Officials Training Mankato, MN Jan 23-24, 2015
3. Coy Borgstrom Newly Elected Officials Training Mankato, MN Jan 23-24, 2015

f. **Pay Estimates/Change Orders:**

g. **2015 Liability Coverage Form**

VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL

PUBLIC FORUM - Rick Erpelding, 610 1st Ave NW – Would like the Council to satisfy his former request of the cost of operation of the street lights on 7th St NW. He does not believe we need to leave these street lights on all night. Erpelding stated that before the street reconstruction there were not that many street lights on that street.

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Library Building Committee Update** – Earlene King, representing the Library Building Committee submitted preliminary summary plans for the future library. There will be more complete plans for the building inspector before the building permit can be submitted. Councilperson Coleman stated that this is not the Taj Mahal and the money is being spent wisely and the architects are making sure that they stay within their budget. The building committee received a grant from Mayo Foundation for \$10,000 for the library. Coleman stated that all of the funds to build the library are being raised by the building committee and this will not increase taxes.

Motion to Acknowledge the work of the building committee made by Coleman, seconded by Hopkins with all voting aye.

2. **Park Board Recommendation** – Park board has made a recommendation to hire Arnold Menchaca to supervise the adult basketball league for ten weeks at a rate of \$35.00 per week.

Motion by Egglar, second by Worden to hire Arnold Menchaca as the adult basketball supervisor at a rate of \$35 per week for 10 weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

Final Levy – Finance Director Zaworski explained that the City no longer has to hold an official hearing but the public will be allowed to discuss and ask questions during this topic. Finance Director Zaworski explained how the Levy works and how the enterprise funds and general fund are

different. Enterprise funds should be self-sustaining and taxes are not used to support enterprise funds. For a house valued at \$200,000 the increase in tax for 2015 will be approximately \$55 for the year. Zaworski also stated that if anyone has questions about their market value and other taxes they would need to attend the meeting at Dodge County on April 30, 2015.

Jeff Stevenson – 2206 13th Ave NE – Mr. Stevenson stated that 6% is an acceptable rate increase and hopes that in the future the City, the School District and the County would coordinate their large projects so they don't all hit the taxes at once. Mr. Stevenson also wanted to know the last time an employee was denied a step increase. Administrator Lenth stated that the City employees did not have a COLA increases in 2010 or 2011 and step increase were frozen through 2012. Mr. Stevenson is glad to see that single health insurance enrollees are now going to pay 10% of the premium for their coverage. Mr. Stevenson stated that the Ice Arena and the Aquatic Center are quality of life issues, but we need to get the budget for the Aquatic Center straightened out. Mr. Stevenson wanted the Council to guarantee that taxes would not go up with new library. The Council stated that they are not going to hire more staff and the energy efficiency of the building should keep the utilities in check. Mr. Stevenson appreciates the hard work of the Council and Mayor
Discussion by Council: Coleman had all of his questions answered by Zaworski before the meeting. Worden thanked the admin committee and staff for bringing the levy down to 6%. Mayor Nelson stated that the quality of life in Kasson is good and we pay a little more in taxes but it is worth it.

Motion to approve the Resolution Approving Final 2014 Tax Levy Collectible in 2015 made by Hopkins, seconded by Worden. Ayes; Egger, Hopkins, Worden, Coleman and Nelson. Nays: None

(on file)

Resolution #12.1-14

Resolution Approving Final 2014 Tax Levy Collectible in 2015

3. **2015 Budget** – There was no discussion on this topic.

Motion to Approve the 2015 Budget as presented made by Worden, seconded by Egger with all voting Aye.

Petition and Waiver – Blaine's 12th Phase V – Blaine, aka Tierra, is petitioning the City to install improvements on 12 lots in Blaine's 12 Subdivision. The City Engineer has looked at this and the costs are limited to \$28,000 per lot. Community Development Director Martin stated that this is the fourth year we have done this with Blaine's and the City hold the first mortgage until the lot is sold and the assessment is paid. We assess them the actual cost of putting in the improvements and this way the infrastructure and streets are done to the City's specifications.

Motion to Approve the Petition and Waiver for Blaine's 12 Subidivision Phase V with Tierra, aka made by Coleman, seconded by Egger with all voting Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

MAYOR'S REPORT

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Approve Renewal of No-Fault Sewer Backup Coverage – Administrator Lenth submitted the League of MN Cities Sewer Backup Insurance and stated that they have tightened up their coverage. Lenth informed the Council that we can pass another resolution in February or March to get out of this insurance if we can qualify for 404 Hazardous Mitigation money since our police department and fire station are located in an area that floods. The City needs to complete the project to oversize storm water main beginning on E Main and proceed under the railroad tracks and highway 34 to prevent/mitigate this continued street flooding.

Motion to Approve the Resolution Establishing Limited Cleanup and Property Damage Protection for Sewer Backups and Water Main Breaks for Water and Sewer Customers, made by Coleman, seconded by Hopkins with all voting Aye.

(on file)

Resolution #12.2-14

Resolution Establishing Limited Clean up and Property Damage Protection for Sewer Backups and Watermain Breaks for Water and Sewer Customers

Mayor Nelson asked about the lighting of the Welcome to Kasson signs – Administrator Lenth stated that the electric department is working with Pine Island Solar to provide solar lighting for the welcome signs to be included as part of the Electric Conservation Improvement Program.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. **Accept Feasibility Study – Blaine's 12th Phase V** - City Engineer Neil Britton presented the feasibility study for Blaine's 12th Phase V which are 12 lots in Blaines' 12th. There was no discussion.

Motion to Approve Feasibility Study and Ordering Plans and Specifications for Bids for Blaines' 12th, made by Worden, seconded by Egger with all voting Aye.

(on file)

Resolution #12.3-14

Resolution Approving Feasibility Study and Ordering Plans and Specifications for Bids for Blaine's 12th

PERSONNEL

1. **Dan Trapp move to Lead W/WW Operator** - City Administrator Lenth stated per the IBEW union contract Dan Trapp is to be moved to Grade 11 Step 5 \$28.50 per hour as of January 1, 2015.

Motion to approve the move of Dan Trapp to Lead Water/Wastewater Operator as of January 1, 2015 at Grade 11, Step 5 \$28.50 per hour, made by Coleman, seconded by Hopkins with all voting Aye.

2. **BMS Acknowledgement of Petition** - City Administrator Lenth informed the Council that the City has received a Maintenance of Status Quo Order from the Bureau of Mediation Services for All employees of the City of Kasson who are public employees with the meaning of MN Stat. 179A.03 subd. 14 excluding all employees of the public works department (except clerical) and essential employees.

Motion to acknowledge the Petition of Maintenance of Status Quo made by Hopkins, seconded by Egger with all voting Aye.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 2014-2015 Coverage Changes, Rates and Dividends from the League of MN Cities – Correspondence was acknowledged

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

Linda Rappe, City Clerk

Matt Nelson, Mayor