
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 3, 2014
CITY OF ELKHORN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 9 S. BROAD ST., ELKHORN, WI 53121

The Common Council meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Brian Olson, Aldermen Gary Payson, Sr., Hoss Rehberg, Gregory Huss, Jim D'Alessandro, Scott McClory, Tom Myrin.

Others present: City Administrator Sam Tapson, City Attorney Ward Phillips, Finance Director James Heilman, City Clerk Cairie Virrueta, Police Chief Joel Christensen, Utility Director John Murphy, Fire Chief Rod Smith, Rec Director Wendy Ard, DPW Operations Manager Martin Nuss, City Engineer Gary Welsh, Reporter Kellen Olshefski.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion (Payson/Huss) to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2014 Common Council meeting. Motion carried.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

Mayor's Report

No report.

City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Tapson reminded the council that the public hearing for the budget will be next Monday at the Finance Committee Meeting. He also pointed out the MSA update for the pool budget that he put on each of their desks. He pointed out that it is anticipated that the budget will exceed \$3.5 million due to change orders. Most of the change orders involve earth work. He invited Chris Arndt to the next MSU meeting to discuss the change orders. He asked the council how they want to proceed with the interviewing of the Engineering companies that submitted proposals to the City. Council members were comfortable with the staff recommendation of the top four firms to interview. It was decided to do the interviews on Thursday, November 20. Administrator Tapson will let the council know the interview times.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Municipal Services

Alderman Payson stated that the Committee met to discuss change orders for the Sunset Pool construction. Alderman Myrin was concerned for the extra costs involving the wet soils removal, as they knew the wet soils were present. **Motion (Payson/Huss) to approve sunset pool change order number one involving lavatory protectors for \$673.20, additional excavation of the deep end of pool for \$10,625.76 and removal of additional wet soils found for \$2,800.38.** Mayor Olson said that funds will come from the contingency fund, which is for these exact purposes, except for change order three. Alderman D'Alessandro was concerned with the costs are receiving the updated budget from MSA. He wants to slow down and talk with the engineer. Mayor Olson pointed out that this was done at the last MSU meeting and will address the budget at the next meeting. Alderman Rehberg questioned additional deep end excavating costs as it he felt it was the contractor's error for not measuring. Alderman Payson said that change orders one and two were already completed. He said that if the contract language allows for change orders, the City needs to pay. Attorney Phillips asked to see the contract to see where the City stands with Change Orders. Administrator Tapson said he shares the council's concerns and that when

bad soils are encountered in the field, contractors don't wait on removing them. **The Common Council agreed to table the motion.**

Alderman Payson said that Change Order Three involved an enhancement to the project. The former water removal system relied on gravity and this change order would install a pump that automatically pumps water, avoiding human error. He asked DPW Manager Nuss if he had the warranty information. Nuss said that the warranty was 8-10 years and it is a good pump and the water goes to the storm drain. The Council was continued discussion and decided to wait to make a decision until after meeting with MSA.

Human Resources

Administrator Tapson said that the City is transitioning from its current modified health insurance plan and into a state plan administered by the Employee Trust Fund. The enrollment process looks at the City to determine the rates. Finance Director James Heilman said that payments are part of the underwriting process and will determine if the City pays a surcharge for two years. Alderman Rehberg is there was a cost savings by going to the state plan? Administrator Tapson said that yes, there were cost savings of approximately \$120,000-300,000 a year, based on cost variables. There are also funds in the Risk Retention account for the current insurance plan, which would be released to be put into a different fund. There is approximately \$500,000 in that account. Alderman D'Alessandro said that the City spoke to employees during meetings and overall employees want this. **Motion (D'Alessandro/Payson) to approve \$2,400 for the underwriting process and submit the application. Roll call vote: Payson, yes; Rehberg, yes; Huss, yes; D'Alessandro, yes; McClory, yes; Myrin, yes. Motion carried.** Finance Director Heilman said that once ETF determines whether the City would pay a surcharge, if the City wants to go with the state plan a resolution would need to be passed. April is the earliest date the state plan would begin for employees.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman D'Alessandro said that the Plan Commission recommended approval of a CSM for Brummel. It is in LaFayette Township and they are requesting a division to build a house. **Motion (D'Alessandro/Rehberg) to approve the CSM, with staff recommendations, for Brummel. Roll call vote: Payson, yes; Rehberg, yes; Huss, yes; D'Alessandro, yes; McClory, yes; Myrin, yes. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN

Motion (Payson/McClory) to adjourn at 6:13 p.m.

Cairie L. Virrueta
City Clerk

Approved 11/17/14