

City of Hill City
Regular Council Meeting
November 9, 2016

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

- A. Mayor Baker presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- B. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. The following members were present: Mayor Larry Baker, Council members Audrey Baratto, Dave Lange and Tina Haugen. Nate Rollins was absent.

2. Consent Agenda

Motion made by Haugen to approve the consent agenda as presented, second by Lange. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

3. Public Forum

A. Enbridge Representatives

Representatives from Enbridge were present and gave a slide presentation of Enbridge, their existing pipelines and plans for future pipelines and replacement pipelines. They also answered questions that were asked.

B. Tom Fasteland

Tom Fasteland was present as a member of the Tree Board and asked the Council to approve Tree Ordinance #134 which was rewritten by Clerk McManigle with the help of Troy Holcomb from Aitkin DNR.

Motion made by Baker to approve Tree Ordinance #134 as presented, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Tom Fasteland also told the Council that the Lions Club had voted to give \$800.00 towards the Aquatic Invasive Species grant. This grant will pay for inspectors/educators throughout the summer of 2017. The grant amount will be a total of \$8,000.00 (\$7,200.00 grant funds & \$800.00 from the Lions Club).

Motion made by Haugen to approve applying for the 2017 grant for Aquatic Invasive Species activities, second by Lange. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Tom Fasteland also spoke of a Blandin Grant through the Grand Rapids Area Foundation to help build up community funds. This grant will match up to \$200,000.00 over a three-year period. The Lions Club will be having meetings on this.

4. Addition or Corrections to the Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

5. Reports

Maintenance/Water/Sewer/Parks/Airport/Streets

- Head Maintenance/Public Works, George Casper, reported that they needed to buy a battery for the backhoe and a battery for the grader.
- Casper said that a representative had come out from Case to look at the problem with the backhoe.
- 2 weeks ago there was a problem with the Hill City Apartments and another resident reporting no water. The water tower was empty but the gauges at the pump house looked fine. Apparently the pump house and water tower lost communications. Everything is fine now.

- The high service pump is back from being rebuilt. There is a seal that is leaking so it will probably need to go back for repairs.
- Ritter and Ritter has started 4,000 feet of sewer line cleaning. There was a problem at Quadna because of trees on the lodge and they could not get to the lift station. Need to check to see if there is an easement for that line.
- Casper said that there is a well from the old homestead at the sewer pond that needs to be capped. Casper had got one quote for around \$1,200.00 but would be getting more quotes.

Motion made by Baker to preapprove up to \$1,400.00 to have the well capped, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

- The sewer pond is being drained.
- George reported that there was finally activity with the new RV sites. Casper had hired Mike Casper to haul fill from the stock pile from the fire hall addition after getting quotes from two other individuals. Council member Haugen questioned this as wasn't getting rid of the dirt in the bid for the Fire Hall? The answer was yes, so why are we paying to have it hauled? Ron Saxton from the Fire Dept. will check into this with the contractor about reimbursement for the hauling.
- The bathhouse is closed for the season.
- Casper is waiting for the final report on the airport inspection.
- Casper wants to grade the street one more time before freeze-up.

Fire Department

- Ron Saxton from the Fire Dept. reported that Rick Herrick and Lee Howard had completed their 6 month probationary period and both were enrolled in Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II training. Also, Kayla Perkins had resigned from the department.
- An ISO update is coming at the end of the month.
- There were 2 calls last month.
- Saxton let the Council know that Jacobson had a fire truck in for repairs so the Hill City Fire Dept. may be getting called out for mutual aid.
- Nominations for the Fire Dept. officers were done.
- A committee has been formed to look into combining the Fire Dept. and the 1st Responders.
- The Fire Dept. wants to have one of the fire fighters clean the new fire hall and will be budgeting for this in the 2017 budget.

Police Department

- Ron Saxton reported that the "new" squad car is almost ready to go.

Mayor

Mayor Baker said that everything was going excellent and everyone was doing a great job.

Clerk

- Clerk Diana McManigle went over the election results and reminded the Council that the meeting to canvas the results was set for Tuesday, Nov. 15th at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- Clerk McManigle also let the Council know that Council training was coming up at the beginning of 2017 for both newly elected officials and for experienced officials. McManigle will get these out to all of the Council so that this can be budgeted for.

Council

There was nothing from the Council.

Committees: Personnel, Facilities/Equipment and Land Use

- There were no committee reports from the Personnel Committee, Facilities Committee or the Land Use Committee.

6. Old Business

A. Approve Tree Ordinance #134

This was approved previously at this meeting.

B. Approve Aquatic Invasive Species grant application

This was approved previously at this meeting.

7. New Business

A. Approve Liquor Lic. Renewals

Motion made by Lange to approve all Liquor Lic. renewals as long as all of the required documents are submitted and the 1st half of the licenses are paid, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

B. Approve 2016 Water/Sewer Assessments for unpaid utilities

Motion made by Lange to approve the unpaid water/sewer utilities to be assessed against property taxes unless they are paid prior to November 28th, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

C. Canvas Election Results

The results of the election will be canvassed on Tuesday, Nov. 15th at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall.

D. McNeil Excavating bill

McNeil Excavating had submitted a bill in the amount of \$2,240.00 for equipment rental per Maintenance Dept., George Casper, for McNeil's use of a loader at the sewer pond for storm clean-up. The Council discussed this and because McNeil Excavating was not hired by the Council to help with storm clean-up, this bill would not be paid. There were numerous other volunteers during storm clean-up that were not paid also.

Motion made by Baker to not pay the McNeil Excavating bill, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Motion made by Lange to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m., second by Baratto.

Respectfully submitted:

Diana McManigle, Clerk/Treasurer

Larry Baker, Mayor