

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting February 21, 2018

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Bente presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Absent: Hansel.

Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from February 7th

Liquor License renewal Rod & Cal's Pub & Grub

Liquor License dram shop Rod & Cal's Pub & Grub

Claims / Additional Claims

Evans moved to approve the consent agenda with additional claims. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Johnson, Evans and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ron Thole with the Strawberry Point Little League addressed Council regarding the idea of installing a batting cage inside the Civic Center. The proposal presented was changed from the original idea which was to be suspended overhead. City Administrator Osweiler stated that she had checked with the City's insurance and they were adamantly opposed to it. After further discussion Rowcliffe made a motion to approve the proposal from the Strawberry Point Little League contingent on the proposal having the full approval by the City's insurance company. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Rowcliffe, Chapman. Nays: Evans. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance 18-01 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to raise solid waste collection fees. Rates will be increased \$0.73. Fees would increase 30 days after final passage of the ordinance. Evans made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 18-01 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to raise solid waste collections fees. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Rowcliffe, Chapman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Evans moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 18-01 - an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to raise solid waste collection fees. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-01 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance 18-02 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base water rate for all water customers. The base rate will increase from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per month. Fees would increase 30 days after final passage of the ordinance. Johnson made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 18-02 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base water rater for all water customers. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Johnson, Evans and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Johnson moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 18-02 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base water rate for all water customers. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Evans, Rowcliffe and Chapman. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-02 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance 18-03 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase water rates. For the first 1000 gallons used the rate will go from \$6.25 to \$6.30. For each additional 1000 gallons used the rate will go from \$2.45 to \$2.50. Fees would increase 30 days after final passage of the ordinance. Rowcliffe made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 18-03 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase

water rates. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Rowcliffe, Chapman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Rowcliffe moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 18-03 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase water rates. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-03 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance 18-04 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base sewer rate for all sewer contributors. The base rate will go from \$12.00 to \$12.24. Fees would increase 30 days after final passage of the ordinance. Evans made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 18-04 - an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base sewer rate for all sewer contributors. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Johnson, Evans and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Evans moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 18-04 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to change the base sewer rate for all sewer contributors. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Evans, Rowcliffe and Chapman. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-04 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance 18-05 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase sewer rates. For each 1000 gallons used the rate will go from \$9.55 to \$9.74. Fees would increase 30 days after final passage of the ordinance. Chapman made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance 18-05 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase sewer rates. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Rowcliffe, Chapman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Chapman moved to waive the third reading of Ordinance 18-05 – an ordinance amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa to increase sewer rates. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-05 is available at City Hall.

INFORMATION

Council had no questions regarding the delinquent list for January 2018.

NEW BUSINESS

Citizen Terri Gould addressed Council. Gould gave a brief history of the Elkader Street project which resulted in litigation between a group of citizens and the City. Gould requested a reduction in the interest on the special assessments as a gesture extending an “olive branch” to citizens who still have a lot of hurt feelings over how the City handled the project. None of the Council felt that a decision could be made without more time to do research and give the topic more thought. Council thanked Gould for her time and coming to speak with Council.

Council discussed a request by the Ambulance Department to hold a fundraiser to allow them to raise money to be used towards matching funds for a grant. Evans made a motion to approve the Ambulance Department fundraiser. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Evans and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Abstain: Johnson. Motion passes.

Tree Board President Mike Tucker gave an update to Council, specifically regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. The data we have on the number of ash trees on City property is approximately 10-12 years old. At that time, there was said to be approximately 60 ash trees. Tucker just wanted to make sure the Council is aware that in the next few years, the City along with the help of the Tree Board, will need to start identifying and removing the ash trees that are in the oldest and/or in the poorest condition. The Tree Board will be planting approximately 25 trees this Spring and would welcome volunteers to help. Further, Tucker noted that there is a vacancy currently on the Tree Board that they are looking to fill. Council thanked Tucker for his time and information.

Council reviewed bids for pool painting. Bid 1 was from Pospisil Painting for \$21,899.00. Bid 2 was from Mongan Painting for \$17,700.00. After some discussion, Evans made a motion to accept the

bid from Mongan Painting for \$17,700.00. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Evans, Rowcliffe and Chapman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the City Code regarding snowmobiles. Osweiler stated that City Hall has had several complaints this year regarding snowmobiles tearing up citizen yards and City parkways, as well as the parks. Individual Council members also had received complaints. Council recognized how difficult it is for law enforcement to make contact with the individuals unless they happen to be sitting right where the incident occurs. Often times by the time a call comes in, the individuals are already out of town. After some discussion, it was suggested that City staff post a reminder regarding the snowmobile ordinance on the City website, in the newspaper and on social media. Osweiler will continue to research what other cities do to combat the issue.

Council reviewed Resolution 18-04 – a resolution regarding a submission of letter of support and financial commitment to the Maquoketa River Watershed Management Authority 2018 Water Quality Management Grant Application. As one of the founding members of this watershed management authority, Council agreed they would like to contribute to the matching funds required for the grant application. The grant is seeking to secure funds to enable the MRWMA to write a watershed management plan. Evans moved to approve Resolution 18-04 – a resolution regarding a submission of letter of support and financial commitment in the amount of \$150.00 to the Maquoketa River Watershed Management Authority 2018 Water Quality Management Grant Application. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Rowcliffe, Chapman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Rowcliffe moved to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Evans seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor