

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting March 14, 2017

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 14th, 2017 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, Johnson, Hansel, Kuehl and Evans.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from March 1st and 9th
Planning and Zoning Board Minutes from February 28th
Ambulance Board Minutes from February 21st
Fire Department Minutes from March 8th
Claims/ Additional Claims

Rowcliffe moved to approve the consent agenda removing item 6) Ambulance Board Minutes from February 28th and item 7) Fire Department Minutes from March 8th to be voted on separately and approving the additional claims. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Hansel, Kuehl, Evans and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Evans moved to approve the Fire Department Minutes from March 8th and to table the Ambulance Board Minutes until Ambulance Board representatives can come to a Council meeting to discuss. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Evans, and Rowcliffe. Nays: None Abstain: Hansel and Johnson. Motion passes.

PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

INFORMATION

City Administrator Osweiler updated the Council on the efforts of the Civic Center sub-committee. Several meetings have taken place and the committee had a very productive and positive meeting with the daycare. Hours of availability have been established for the gym and the Civic Center. These will be published in the paper and shared on the City website and Facebook page. The City will continue to explore options for secure door access that works for both the City and the daycare. The committee has drawn up rules for Civic Center which will be posted soon. The City continues to seek volunteers to supervise in the evenings from 4-7pm, to allow children to utilize the Civic Center. Until such a time, the City can ensure there is supervision for children in the Civic Center in the evenings – the gym will be locked by 3:00 pm daily. Any adult may obtain a key from City Hall and utilize the gym for personal use, or for the purpose of supervising their children while in the gym. Council member Evans inquired if anyone has thought of having a Community Meeting regarding the Civic Center. Several Council members agreed that this was a good idea. Council member Kuehl offered to lead the meeting. The Community Meeting was set for Monday, March 27th, 2017 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be held at the Civic Center.

City Administrator Osweiler reviewed with the Council about her recent conversation with Mayor Bente. After a meeting with the Deputy City Clerk, Osweiler requested to temporarily revise the hours that City Hall is open to the public. With the daily demands of customer service required for this City, both Osweiler and DP Clerk McDowell are struggling. There is little to no time available for training, for attending to organizational projects within the office, for detailed attention to financials without interruption. Mayor Bente wanted to ensure that City Hall was still available to citizens five days a week. City Administrator Osweiler requested the hours that City Hall is open to the public be as follows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm (no change) Wednesdays 11:00am – 1:00pm. The Council was supportive of the change. Council members Evans and Rowcliffe wondered if the time open on Wednesdays should be later in the afternoon instead of over the lunch hour. Kuehl

suggested keeping the times that are being requested since the City employees are most familiar with visitors at City Hall. Johnson inquired whether the hours requested were going to be enough for City staff to complete the tasks/training and wanted to make sure staff are not short changing themselves. It was agreed that the temporary change to hours requested should be implemented and the topic can be revisited if it seems to be a problem. Council member Evans thanked the City Administrator for coming forward on this topic. Hours will be posted and published for the community.

NEW BUSINESS

Council had previously decided that if the city shop's non-utilized sewer jetter did not sell by March 15th, the item would be put up for auction. The item did not sell. Evans suggested that the City not request a reserve on the item. Council agreed on this. Johnson made a motion to place the sewer jetter up for the April 22nd auction through Everitt's Auction without a reserve. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Evans, Rowcliffe, Johnson and Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Mayor Bente proceeded with the second reading of ordinance 17-01 – an ordinance amending the City of Strawberry Point Zoning Ordinances Article II, Section 201 A-1 Special Exception Uses and Structures. Evans made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 17-01. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Rowcliffe, Johnson, Hansel and Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes. Evans inquired about the next step in the process. Andrew Dahlen from SoCore Energy stated that he received the building permit application and will be preparing to submit that along with a letter requesting a special exception under the ordinance in anticipation of the ordinance passing at next Council meeting. The Board of Adjustment will need to issue the special exception after a public hearing.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council member Rowcliffe stated that he had interested parties who would like to bring their children to occasionally roller skate in the City Hall basement. Council did not see a problem with it as long as the children were supervised.

Mayor Bente reminded the Council that it is time for a 6 month review for the City Administrator. The Mayor assigned Council members Kuehl and Evans to conduct the review. Mayor Bente also reminded the Council that next month will be a 6 month review for one of the Public Works employees. That review will be conducted by the City Administrator and Mayor Bente requested that she choose a Council member to be the Council liaison.

With no further business, Evans moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor