

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting April 19, 2017

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19th, 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, Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Hansel.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from April 5th

Liquor License renewals – Strawberry Foods and Deli

Claims/ Additional Claims

City Admin Osweiler stated there were two corrections she found needed to be made to the April 5th Minutes. Both corrections were in the last sentence – it should read: “With no further business, Evans moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Johnson seconded the motion.” Evans moved to approve the consent agenda with the changes to the minutes and with the additional claims. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
INFORMATION**

Council had no questions regarding any of the board minutes. The Mayor noted that the delinquent account total was lower.

NEW BUSINESS

Council reviewed the request to hold the annual VFW Breakfast at the Civic Center on June 10th during Strawberry Days. Evans moved to approve the request to hold the annual VFW Breakfast at the Civic Center on June 10th. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the list of seasonal pool employees for 2017. Johnson moved to approve the list as presented. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Rowcliffe, Evans and Johnson. Nays: None. Abstain: Hansel. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the city’s insurance policies. Agent Pam Vaske was present to review all items with Council. There were some areas the insurance company was focusing attention on this year in regards to areas of potential business income loss and extra expenses should one of the city’s revenue sources be down for a time. It was determined that more time is needed to examine these and determine if they are good options for the city to elect, these can be added at a later time. Mayor Bente inquired whether the Firefighters Association applying for 501(c)3 status would have any effect on the City’s policy based on the Fire Department’s research with other cities, they did not find this was the case. Vaske believed that the Firefighters Association would increase the City’s premiums because they would be considered a newly formed separate entity and would have to be added as an additional insured on the city’s policies. She also noted that not all underwriters would allow such an entity to be listed as an additional insured. Vaske also stated that if there was evidence to the contrary, she would definitely go back to our insurance company to inquire why we would be charge and another city would not. Evans moved to approve the insurance renewal as presented. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson and Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the recommendation of the Electric Study Committee to pass on a proposal received from Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative. The Electric Study Committee did feel as though there was value in discussing with the Cooperative creating a separate proposal for maintaining the City’s power poles. Alan Wessels and City Admin Osweiler would review this with the Cooperative. Council member Kuehl inquired what the City Admin’s opinion on the matter. City Admin Osweiler agreed with

the Electric Study Committee's recommendation. Rowcliffe moved to approve the recommendation from the Electric Study Committee to pass on the proposal from Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the topic of dirt work at the ball field. This topic was previously reviewed by the Park and Recreation Board. This would allow electrical wires to be run out to the pitching mound and the batting cage. Council member Hansel wanted to know if the City could donate the wire needed for the project. Alan Wessels said he had reviewed the wire the City has available and it could not be used for the project. However, there is conduit the City has (approximately \$35.00 value) that could be donated for the project. It was determined that the City Admin could make the decision to donate the conduit since it's within her spending limit. No action was taken.

Council heard the Park and Recreation board's presentation regarding the pool project timeline. They presented a potential schedule and costs associated with each section. Much discussion took place regarding the presentation particularly regarding the fact that there is still currently not enough money to cover the first phase of the project (phase one is for the Splash Pad). Rowcliffe felt that even with best efforts, the remaining funds could not be raised; the amount is still too great. The Park and Recreation Board did not agree with this assertion and reviewed their focused efforts for this year which includes fundraising events, targeted funding via a capital campaign, grants and corporate donation requests. It was determined that the Park and Recreation Board has the authority to approve the engineering cost and bring back those plans for Council review.

Council reviewed the grants the Park and Recreation Board would like to apply for from the following sources: Roy Carver Charitable Trust, Theisens/Greater Dubuque Foundation and the Wellmark Small Match challenge. Rowcliffe moved to approve the Park and Recreation Board's request to apply for the grants mentioned. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

The Public Works employee waived his right to go into closed session. City Admin Osweiler discussed the review that took place along with Council member Rowcliffe. City Admin Osweiler felt that this employee had done a great job in this first six months. During the review she and the public works employee had worked to establish goals for the next six months and areas of improvement that should be addressed. The city would work to continue to foster communication between various departments and identify training/learning opportunities for him. Based on the City Admin's assessment, she recommended to the Council a salary increase of \$1.00/hour. Evans moved to approve the review and recommendation of \$1.00/hour increase. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the proposal to move the May 3rd Council meeting to May 10th. Johnson made a motion to re-schedule the May 3rd, 2017 Council meeting to May 10, 2017. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe, Evans and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Admin Osweiler informed that there will be tree trimming taking place sometime between April and July, at the area close to the South Lagoon. Work will be done by a contractor for Alliant Energy; there will be no cost to the city. This is routine tree trimming for line maintenance and clearance.

With no further business, Evans moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Kuehl seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor