

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting May10, 2017

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:04 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.

Rowcliffe 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 19<sup>th</sup>

Liquor License renewals – OT's Sports Bar

Claims/ Additional Claims

Evans moved to approve the consent agenda with the additional claims

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**INFORMATION**

Council had no questions regarding the Park and Recreation Board Minutes from April 18<sup>th</sup> & the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Bente reviewed the section of City Code for Library Board appointments. He talked to several candidates. The Library Board had made the recommendation to appoint Vickie Schmidt. After careful consideration, Mayor Bente stated he would like to appoint Vickie Schmidt to the Library Board. Evans made a motion to accept the appointment. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the first reading of Ordinance 17-02 – An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Strawberry Point, by amending the provisions pertaining to the Park and Recreation Board. Mayor Bente explained that the ordinance amendment would enable the Park and Recreation Board to elect a board member as Secretary rather than have the City Clerk/Administrator serve that role. This amendment is being proposed so that all boards and committees of the City are doing business in the same manner. Johnson made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 17-02 – an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Strawberry Point, by amending provisions pertaining to the Park and Recreation Board. Kuehl seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe, Evans and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes. Johnson moved to waive the requirement for the second and third readings of Ordinance 17-02. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson and Kuehl. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of the Ordinance 17-02 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed the first reading of Ordinance 17-03 – An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Strawberry Point, by amending provisions pertaining to the rates of security lights. City Admin Osweiler explained that there are few of these security lights in the city but they are different than street lights. Security lights are unmetered and the customers who have them pay a flat rate on their monthly city bill. The rates have not been updated since 2006. In working with Allamakee Clayton, Alan Wessels determined that our rates should be updated and the classifications updated as well. The rate increases are minimal and take into consideration everything from initial installation, to maintenance and monthly operation. Evans moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 17-03 – an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Strawberry Point, by amending provisions pertaining to the rates of security lights. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

City Admin Osweiler gave an overview of an issue occurring at three homes on Commercial Street who have property abutting the North ball diamond. Public Works had contacted Larry Meyer to investigate the issue of water pooling at that location. Meyer indicated after his assessment, he believed

that there was some collapsed tiling that is causing the issue. However, there may be further issues that the individual homeowners would need to have addressed on their properties. As for the portion which the City is responsible for, the problem would need to be addressed in the fall, after the ball diamond is no longer being utilized. City Admin Osweiler made a note to revisit the topic in late July or early August. Council discussed that the project might need to be bid, so a scope would need to be developed.

Council reviewed proposals from Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative for the installation of new underground electrical near the intersection of Cherry and Locust Streets. The work is necessary due to a new trailer being moved into the trailer park that would necessitate a new meter to service the home. A new meter cannot be added to the existing set up. After consultation of Allamakee Clayton it was determined that overhead lines are no longer advisable and it would be necessary to install underground lines. Total estimate from Allamakee Clayton is \$5200.00. The City would be responsible for the primary line and would assess the property owner a cost of \$8.50/per lineal foot for the secondary line (per City code). The new property owner appealed to the Council, as he felt that he should not be responsible for anything before the meter. Council reviewed the code and inquired how this may have been handled in the past. City Admin Osweiler stated that she felt the code as currently adopted is flawed and would need to be reviewed after this to fix it. However, it is her understanding that assessing the property owner for the secondary line would be consistent with how the City has handled things in the past. Council felt that the code revisions should be addressed in the near future but in regards to this particular situation, the City should remain consistent with how things have been handled in the past. Kuehl moved to approve the Allamakee Clayton estimate with the City paying for the primary lines and the property owner being responsible for the secondary lines. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Rowcliffe. Nays: Hansel. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the annual review that took place for the Chief of Police, who waived his right to a Closed Session. Mayor Bente stated that he and the City Administrator conducted the review together. Goals were identified for the coming year. Mayor Bente stated that the police staff including part time/reserve officers is excellent and that is a direct reflection of the Chief. Chief Evans has done very well with budget constraints over the past few years and Mayor Bente thanked him for his efforts regarding that. Mayor Bente stated that Chief Evans had not had a raise in approximately 3 years and made the recommendation to the Council that a 3% raise be given. City Administrator Osweiler stated that Chief Evans is a team player and the City is lucky to have him. He has helped her review several policies that need updating and will be given to the Council to review in the next month or so. Several Council members thanked the Chief for his work, knowing that it is a difficult position. Evans moved to approve the review and the 3% salary increase proposed. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

City Admin Osweiler informed the Council that the City has sent out letters to all residents regarding the sewer and wastewater issues. The letter was informational in nature, regarding things that should not be flushed or dumped into the City's wastewater system. The information has also been published in the paper. Council also briefly discussed the continued issue with the Strawberry Point Lutheran Home. City Administrator Osweiler stated that the Iowa DNR has been contacted and may be of help in mitigating the situation.

With no further business, Evans moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passes.

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Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

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Jeff Bente, Mayor