

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting July 5, 2017

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 5, 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. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. Mayor Bente stated there were some adjustments that needed to be made to the agenda. Johnson rescinded his motion. Johnson moved to approve the agenda removing the agenda item regarding Access Systems and the item regarding Budget results for Fiscal Year 16-17. Rowcliffe seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Evans, Johnson, Kuehl and Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from June 16th and June 21st

Claims/ Additional Claims

Mayor Bente stated he had a discussion with the City Administrator about the June 16th Special Meeting minutes. Both felt that the minutes should be amended to show the break out of each bid from Weber's and Don & Walt for clarity purposes. The minutes would now state the following:

“ The estimate received from Weber's Plumbing and Heating for a new Furnace and AC unit was \$5735.48 and the estimate for a humidifier was \$362.75 for a total of \$6,098.23.

The estimate received from Don & Walt for a new Furnace and humidifier was \$2,890.00 and the estimate for an AC unit was \$3505.00 for a total of \$6,395.00. Don & Walt also indicated that there was a possible rebate available in the amount of \$400.00 thereby reducing the total cost to \$5995.00.”

Kuehl moved to approve the consent agenda with the amendment to the June 16th Special Meeting minutes, the claims and additional claims. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Johnson, Kuehl, Hansel and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Topic of Access Systems contracts has been pushed to next meeting, July 21st.

INFORMATION

Council had no questions regarding the May 9th Ambulance Board minutes or the April and May minutes from the Library Board. Council Member Hansel asked Council Member Evans about the Park and Rec Board minutes from June 12th. Hansel indicated the minutes stated Evans met with the Park and Rec Board President to discuss the Park and Rec Board's responsibilities at the ball field in town. Evans stated that she spoke with Park and Rec after they came to her because she is the Council liaison for that Board and the Board needed clarification regarding their responsibilities at the ball field. Evans just looked at the ordinance and found that there is no mention of the Board being responsible for the ball field. This is the only information she relayed to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Council reviewed a request from The Backpack Project to have the City make a donation to the cause. Council inquired whether we had made a donation to this organization/project in the past. The City Administrator stated that to her knowledge they had not, at least within the past year. Several Council members felt that due to budget constraints and also turning down other requests for aid from similar organizations/projects, they could not donate at this time. Council Member Evans suggested that perhaps some of the Council would consider donating their time towards the project; her understanding is this organization gets a group together to put the backpacks together.

Mayor Bente mentioned the power outage in town which occurred shortly after 4:30pm. He was with the Public Works team at the City generation plant and at the time of the meeting, it appeared as though the issue was in the lines/infrastructure somewhere in town and not at the plant itself. A crew from Allamakee Clayton Electric Cooperative had been dispatched at approximately 6:30pm to come to

the City and assist the Public Works team in getting power restored in the City. The City was doing everything they could to get power restored as quickly as possible.

City Administrator Osweiler stated that in talking with Alan Wessels and some of the Council members, there had been discussion about holding a possible “mock power outage”. The purpose of this would be to test the generation plant, which to the City’s knowledge works. The Public Works team along with Wessels has been generating electricity at the plant monthly. Generation typically occurs for approximately an hour and again, has been successful. The mock outage would entail working with Allamakee Clayton to have a mock outage which would then signal the generators to run. Council was supportive of the idea but felt that due to the current outage we should wait to do so. Also, Council wanted to ensure that there was plenty of notice given to the citizens in town. Council will revisit the topic at a later date.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sarah Moser from Clayton County EMA introduced herself and presented the by-laws (which were approved at the previous Clayton County EMA meeting) for Mayor Bente to sign.

Council member Hansel brought up the topic of potentially selling lots of land that the City owns. There was discussion on selling these to possible developers to fill housing needs in town which were recently identified in the housing study conducted by Clayton County. It was determined that the topic should be looked into prior to putting it on a future agenda.

Council member Kuehl brought up the topic of economic development since Council heard from the Board President at the last meeting. There was discussion on possibly holding a community meeting on the topic to see if residents are satisfied with how LOST funds are currently allocated. Also, there was discussion on whether Economic Development and the Chamber should be looking at merging and having a single director.

With no further business, Rowcliffe moved to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Evans seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor