

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting August 1, 2018

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 1, 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, Evans and Hansel.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from July 18th

Claims

June 2018 City Financials

Chapman made a motion to approve the consent agenda with additional claims: Casey's General Store \$255.94, Chase \$761.50, Clayton County Recorder Office \$7.00, Dave's Complete Construction \$32,014.99. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Oswailer stated that after the last meeting she and the Mayor both spoke with the Press Journal. It was determined the Press Journal does not charge the city for printing the agenda. There was confusion on the bills that lead the City to believe they were being charged. As a result, the City sees no reason not to publish the agenda in the paper.

INFORMATION

Oswailer gave an overview of the city finances at the end of the fiscal year – June 30, 2018. The General Fund had a balance of \$69,387.45, which was better than originally anticipated. She believed this was due to a variety of factors including the addition of the city ordinance for municipal infractions.

Council had no questions regarding the Strawberry Point Ambulance Board Meeting Minutes from May 8th & July 10th, the Strawberry Point Fire Department Minutes from June 6th, June 27th & July 25th.

Evans inquired about the Strawberry Point Library Board Minutes from June 20th. Under the minutes "old business" section, it states the Board discussed budget reports and late payments by the city. The Board questioned whether the budget reports were accurate, and that director Patty Lincoln met with Oswailer to discuss. Oswailer suggested obtaining a credit card through the City's bank, as the other departments have. Oswailer explained to the Council that there have continued to be difficulties due to when the library receives bills, when the Library Board meetings are held and when the coded invoices are given to City Hall. For example, the last credit card statement was turned in approximately 3 days before the statement due date. Even if a check was cut that day, Oswailer believed late fees would have been incurred. Oswailer stated that she and Lincoln have worked to try to correct any issues. Oswailer's suggestion to obtain the same credit card as other departments was just an invitation which may help and ultimately it is the Library Board's decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Citizen Ron Highland addressed Council regarding his sewer line which ties into the main at E. Mission Street. Since Highland moved into his home in 2014, he has had to jet his sewer line 4-5 times, although has not had any issues in approximately 2 years. Recently, he did need to have his sewer line jetted and at the time was able to have a camera utilized to determine the cause. It was determined that with the fall of the line into the main, since he is in essence at the beginning of the line the sewage does not receive adequate flow to carry it down the main. There are two businesses west of his home, which do not generate much water/sewer use. After some discussion, Council agreed to have the Fire Department flush the main with water twice a year, in Spring and Fall, starting at the first manhole on E. Mission Street. The City will monitor and confer with Highland to determine if this is working to mitigate the problem. Highland then inquired whether Council would consider paying for the most recent

bill charges. There was some debate over responsibility of charges and it was noted this had never been brought up to the City previously, thereby giving the City a change to address it. Some felt that in light of the plug being right at the main, it could be construed as the City's responsibility. After further discussion, Rowcliffe made a motion to pay \$125.00, estimating that this was for the cost to camera the line. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Chapman. Nays: Johnson. Motion passes. Johnson noted his vote was so because he felt the City should cover the entire bill.

Council reviewed the topic of adding Rainbow Drive to the list of seal coat locations this year. Rainbow Drive currently has a strip of the street tore up in order to address a drainage issue (previously approved by Council). Hansel made a motion to have Rainbow Drive added to the list of locations seal coated this year. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Evans, Hansel, Rowcliffe, Chapman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the first reading of Ordinance 18-07 – An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Strawberry Point, Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to the traffic code. Chief Evans spoke to Council about the revisions made, which were minor. Johnson made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 18-07. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Hansel, Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson and Evans. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Rowcliffe made a motion to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 18-07. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans and Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes. A full copy of Ordinance 18-07 is available at City Hall.

Council reviewed Resolution 18-13 – A resolution setting forth the credit card policy for the City of Strawberry Point. Osweiler explained this was just an updated policy from the one passed in the fall of 2016. The two changes to the policy were adding a card for the Deputy City Clerk and increasing the credit line for the City Administrator card to \$1,000.00. Evans made a motion to approve Resolution 18-13. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel and Rowcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the topic of contacting a firm to conduct the annual audit examination for the City. Osweiler stated that she had researched and found that two firms seem to be utilized by neighboring municipalities. These are O'Connor & Brooks, Dubuque, IA and Hacker, Nelson & Co, Decorah, IA. Evans made a motion to have City staff contact Hacker, Nelson & Co to conduct the City's annual audit examination. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Evans, Hansel, Rowcliffe and Chapman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Osweiler stated that in the past 3 months, the City has dealt with a significant number of nuisance related complaints. As a result, she wondered if Council would be interested in revisiting the nuisance ordinance that was first discussed last fall. After much discussion Council agreed there needed to be a start and they would like Osweiler to send the ordinance to review.

Osweiler informed Council that there will be reduced hours at the City Pool beginning the week of August 20th. This was due to a variety of factors including current staff not being able to fill shifts due to other obligations as well as staff leaving earlier than originally planned. Osweiler stated that she had consulted with Deputy City Clerk Jared regarding next year's staff and have agreed that more lifeguards need to be employed, among other changes. Evans suggested next year that because the City covers the lifeguard's certification costs, perhaps a contract needs to be signed whereby a portion is paid back to the City if they are unable to work the full season.

Mayor Bente stated he had several inquiries about the amount of time the City staff has been working on the splash pool construction project, particularly since the project was bid. Osweiler stated that the project bid did not include the movement of the city's utility lines. Mike Tucker had inquired about this prior to finalizing specifications. The City, as the utility, agreed to moving the utility lines and poles as necessary. Therefore, these were not included in the bid for the project. Between the two public works employees, they have spent approximately 66 hours on this project.

With no further business, Rowcliffe moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Chapman seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor