

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting October 7, 2019

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, October 7, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. inside 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, Hansel.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes from September 18th
- Liquor License Renewal – Casey’s General Store
- Claims
- Additional claims

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Council had no questions about Strawberry Point Library Board Minutes from July 16, 2019 or the Strawberry Point Park and Recreation Board Minutes from September 23, 2019. Council reviewed a letter from the Strawberry Point Lutheran Home Board dated September 30, 2019. After general discussion, Council requested City Administrator Osweiler draft a response letter to voice the Council’s disagreement with the content of the letter.

NEW BUSINESS

Council reviewed the request by Amanda Sargent to waive the Civic Center rental fee for December 7, 2019. Sargent would like to again host the Berry Merry Christmas Vendor Show on that date. Proceeds from booth/space rental will be donated back to a city entity or department. Evans moved to approve the request. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel.

Council tabled Resolution 19-25 – A resolution approving the City Street Financial Report.

Council discussed the Wilder Museum’s intention to fundraise for a building extension. Preliminary reports indicate the expansion will cost upwards of \$50,000. There was concern raised about the museum fundraising at the same time the city fire department is fundraising for the new fire station. Johnson indicated that the fundraising will not happen right away, the museum will be pursuing grant funding first. It was determined that the museum should move forward with current plans.

Mayor Bente opened five sealed bids submitted for the 2004 Chevrolet 3500 with dump box and western v-plow. Bids were as follows: 1) Cody Vorwald \$1,710.00 2) Weber’s Plumbing & Heating \$3500.00 3) Larry & Mark Meyer \$2,751.00 4) Al Recker \$3250.00 5) Dean Courtnage \$557.00. Johnson moved to award the bid to Weber’s Plumbing & Heating for \$3500.00. Evans seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Osweiler reviewed a request from Gary McElroy, owner of Strawberry Foods & Deli. McElroy (not present) was seeking for the City to pay for half of the modifications to his driveway. Osweiler stated she had asked for an estimate or bill for the Council to review but did not receive any documentation. After some discussion, Rowcliffe moved to refuse the request due to the fact that it involved a State Highway. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Police Chief Evans and Osweiler reviewed the drafted nuisance letter to be sent out in the near future. After some discussion, Council expressed all over support for the letter and the plans to being abating nuisances in town.

Council tabled the first reading of Ordinance 19-08 – an ordinance setting the municipal infraction fines related to nuisances until the next regular Council meeting.

Council reviewed the request to purchase 50 radio read water meters. Osweiler indicated that this will be the final purchase as they are wrapping up the final street meter conversion. Evans moved to approve the purchase of 50 radio read water meters. Hansel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the proposal from Advanced Business Systems for the purchase of a new Neopost postage machine for \$3,154.00. The request for purchase comes as the result of a lightning strike which occurred at city hall on October 1, 2019. Several items were damaged, some beyond repair. Rowcliffe moved to approve the proposal from Advanced Business Systems for the purchase of a new Neopost postage machine for \$3,154.00. Chapman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rowcliffe, Chapman, Johnson, Evans, Hansel. Nays: None. Motion passes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council briefly discussed changing how the city picks up leaves. The leaf vacuum is extremely time intensive for the public works employees. As a result, the service, which is free to the residents and businesses in town is costly for the city. Council requested Osweiler draft the required documentation to require that leaves are bagged and placed at the curbside.

With no further business, Rowcliffe moved to adjourn at 6:42 PM. Chapman seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Alison Osweiler, City Clerk/Administrator

Jeff Bente, Mayor