

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

December 20, 2010

A regular council meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2010 with members Carroll Behne, Jim Poirot, Kurt Olson, Robert Roesler and Brad Ringnell present. Absent, none. Also present, City Admin/EDA Director Jamie Letzring and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

Motion by Poirot to approve the updated agenda, second by Ringnell, carried.

Motion by Ringnell to approve the minutes of the December 1<sup>st</sup> EDA meeting and the December 6<sup>th</sup> council meeting as written and sent to each council member for study, second by Behne, carried.

Discussion was held regarding the proposal from Jeff Kath of The Retrofit Company for the installation of retrofit lighting at the fire hall, Community Hall and incubator space. Questions were raised regarding lumens and wattage, but in the absence of Jeff Kath, a motion was made by Behne to table the proposal from The Retrofit Company until such time that Jeff Kath may be present to answer the questions, second by Ringnell, carried.

Temperance Lake Ridge Nurse Director Lisa Lange was present for follow-up discussion on the memory care expansion and the additional revenues that could be generated by such an expansion, versus the financing obligations. Demographic studies show that an expansion at this time is sustainable, and lower interest rates will work to the advantage. Motion by Ringnell to direct City Administrator Letzring to complete a thorough higher end demographic study through Tealwood Management, coordinated with financial advisor Shannon Sweeney and moving forward as soon as possible, second by Poirot, carried.

Following discussion regarding Midcontinent Communications as cable provider for Temperance Lake Ridge, motion by Ringnell to move forward with negotiations for a five-year contract with Midcontinent Communications for cable TV services at Temperance Lake Ridge, second by Poirot, carried.

Councilor Ringnell reported on his findings upon removal of the rock façade underneath bay windows at Temperance Lake Ridge. It was his recommendation that the rock must be removed and new plywood must be installed as soon as the weather permits, starting in March if possible. Pictures have been sent to Tealwood Management attorneys; the bay windows appear to be in good shape.

City Administrator Jamie Letzring explained how the proposed 2011 property tax levy was reduced to an increase of 4.1% by changing health insurance plan deductibles, including a transfer from Temperance Lake Ridge, and replacing a capital outlay purchase with the use of reserve dollars. Councilor Behne spoke in favor of levying the full amount that had been proposed, given the possibility of additional LGA cuts. Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2010-28 Adopting the 2011 Budget and Final 2010 Tax Levy Collectible in 2011 in the amount of \$525,199.00, second by Poirot. Ringnell, yea; Olson, yea; Behne, yea (with reluctance); Poirot, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2010-28 approved. This represents a 4.1% increase in the property tax levy.

Early Childhood Initiative Coordinator Becky Tish informed the council that a \$15,000 matching funds grant has been received and it is intended to be used for indoor playground equipment. However, a suitable location to house the indoor play area is needed and Mrs. Tish proposed several possible sites in the community that are for sale. While it was agreed that this grant money should be retained and used for a good purpose, purchase and remodeling costs would be excessive and prohibitive. Various locations and community needs were discussed, but no direction was able to be given.

City Administrator Letzring presented an updated personnel policy that would require employee participation in the city health insurance program. As a result of the new health care laws, costly premiums almost caused the loss of a participant, which jeopardizes the city's health insurance program that requires 75% participation. Motion by Ringnell to update the Personnel Policy to reflect the health insurance modifications as presented, second by Olson, carried.

Councilor Ringnell stated that the grader does a good job plowing snow on the streets and the pay loader should only be used for snow removal in lots and alleys, with the truck/plow also used for street snow removal. Ringnell also inquired about rewiring Christmas lights and light poles without outlets for Christmas lighting.

Mayor Roesler presented a resolution of recognition and gratitude to outgoing Councilor Jim Poirot for his eight years of service to the City of Sherburn with sound judgment and advice, and called for a standing ovation of appreciation for his time served as council member.

Administrator report:

- PFA loan paperwork is completed and approved; a deposit in the amount of \$1,021,290.99 will be received on December 30, 2010 for the WWTP upgrades.
- C.E.R. Zumba classes will be held at the Community Hall on Tuesday evenings for six weeks commencing in January.
- All Christmas lights that can work are working; those without bulbs have faulty wiring. A Civic and Commerce committee spearheaded by Cindy Ford and Dorothy Behne is seeking donations and pursuing fund raisers for the purchase of 25-30 Christmas lights at approximately \$200 per unit.

Motion to adjourn by Olson, second by Ringnell, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next council meeting will be held on Monday, January 3, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Irene Schlaphoff, Deputy Clerk