

Cooperstown City Council

July 1, 2019 – City Hall – 7:00 PM

Mayor Paintner called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Members present included Paul Paintner, Nic Zimprich, Lee Watne, Deb Eslinger, Larry Olson and Tim Erickson. Absent: Rick Cushman. Others in attendance: JoAnne White, David Lunde, Mark Urness, Gene Loge, Darce Holcomb, Dennis Halvorson, Welton Cochrane, Samantha Larson, Wesley Straight, Blaine Larson and Nancy Lunde.

Agenda & Minutes: The minutes from the June 3, 2019 meeting were approved with a motion from Eslinger, seconded by Zimprich. Motion carried unanimously.

City Assessments/Appeal: Commissioner Mark Urness attended the meeting with information regarding the Griggs County Board of Equalization's decision to reject the city assessor's changes in values of properties as submitted to the Tax Director. The Council asked the Commissioner and David Lunde questions about the appeal and about the County's decision at their Board of Equalization meeting. Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to appeal the Griggs County Board of Equalization's decision to reject the city's changes approved at the city's equalization meeting and to raise the city residential values 4% based on last year's values. The city would like the state board to ensure that all residential property in our county is assessed by a consistent and fair standard. Motion carried. Aye: Olson, Eslinger, Watne & Zimprich. Nay: Erickson

Planning & Zoning: Zimprich moved, Erickson seconded, to ratify the appointment of City Attorney, Travis Peterson to the City of Cooperstown Planning & Zoning Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing: Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to adjourn the regular meeting. Mayor Paintner opened the public hearing at 7:15 pm. Members present included Paul Paintner, Nic Zimprich, Lee Watne, Deb Eslinger, Larry Olson and Tim Erickson. Others in attendance: JoAnne White, David Lunde, Mark Urness, Gene Loge, Darce Holcomb, Dennis Halvorson, Welton Cochrane, Samantha Larson, Wesley Straight, Blaine Larson and Nancy Lunde.

The public hearing regarding rezoning of Blocks 9 and 10 as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Committee was held. No one appeared to comment, and no written comments were received. Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to approve the request to rezone Blocks 9 and 10 from residential to commercial. Motion carried unanimously. The hearing was closed. Zimprich moved, Watne seconded, to adjourn the public hearing. Zimprich moved, Eslinger seconded, to reconvene the regular city council meeting.

Abatement of Special Assessment: Eslinger moved, Zimprich seconded, to approve the abatement of past unpaid special assessments in the amount of \$3,687.26 for the property at 1005 Park Ave. NE (Block 37, Lots 17-20). The County had abated the property tax for the property previously. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances: The Council discussed several ordinances the Auditor had provided to them. There have been problems recently with loose dogs chasing people and other issues within the city. The Council would like the City Attorney to attend the next meeting to discuss the best way to address some of these issues we are having with residents in town not abiding by the City Ordinances. Nancy will ask Travis Peterson if he can attend the meeting on August 5.

L2 Contracting: A representative from L2 Contracting had visited the city to review the remaining work that was done on the Odegard Alley Water & Sewer Project. The yards that were affected by the project were leveled and grass seed was put down. The residents in the area were not happy with how this had been handled so L2 Contracting had been contacted in the hopes that they would correct the problems. L2 Contracting has asked A&A Landscaping to correct any issues with the yards. The city will use the remaining \$5,000 from the project to pay the bill from A&A Landscaping and the remainder will be paid to L2 Contracting.

Preliminary Budget: Nancy Lunde reminded the city council of the timeline the city needs to follow regarding the preliminary budget and the final budget. These budgets are submitted to the county auditor in August and October. There was discussion regarding last year's budget and what had been levied.

City Heating System: Nancy asked the council to review the quotes provided by Precision Electrical, Heating and HVAC, Arrowwood Electric and Heartland Heating and Cooling for a new furnace/air conditioner for the auditor's office and meeting room. After discussion and some comparisons in the information provided, Olson moved, Watne seconded, to accept the quote from Arrowwood Electric, option #2 with electric plenum heater and air conditioning for \$18,867.70. Motion carried unanimously.

Dept. Reports:

WSS: Blaine Larson reported on the activities of the city crew for the past month. He presented a quote from Knife River Asphalt Patching. There are 8 areas to be patched in the streets due to previous water repairs. Blaine is waiting for Border States to review these areas and submit a quote also. The council will look at this matter when they have both quotes for repair. Blaine reported an issue of unmetered water at the Country Club. Deb Eslinger will get more information for the council regarding this for the next meeting.

Auditor Report: Nancy Lunde provided the auditor's monthly financial report, payroll report and list of receipts. Nancy asked the council to review the information provided by the Deputy Auditor. The auditor stated the employees had requested approval to close all City of Cooperstown Departments July 5, 2019. Olson moved, Erickson seconded, to approve the closing of all City Departments July 5, 2019. Motion carried unanimously. Nancy informed the council the City needs to have a representative on the Housing Authority Board. JoAnne White volunteered to serve on the Board and after discussion, Mayor Paintner appointed her to the Ramsey County Housing Authority Board.

Bills: The council reviewed the bills with discussion on several. The bills listed were approved to be paid with a motion from Eslinger, seconded by Watne. There was a roll call vote with all members in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Permits: Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to approve the Community Club Special Event Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Zimprich moved, Olson seconded, to approve The Fish Bowl Liquor License. Motion carried unanimously. Eslinger moved, Watne seconded, to approve the Dennis Monson Building Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Eslinger moved, Zimprich seconded, to approve the Carol Carlson Demolition Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Erickson moved, Zimprich seconded, to approve the GCC Dollars for Scholars Local Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Eslinger moved, Zimprich seconded, to approve the American Legion Local Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Zimprich moved, Erickson seconded, to approve the Cooperstown Fire & Rescue Local Permit. Motion carried unanimously. Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to approve the GCC Booster Club Local Permit. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business: The council discussed the current sales tax rate that is imposed within the city. Some council members feel that the city should increase the sales tax soon, as many cities in North Dakota have added 1% or 2% to their sales tax and this could be dedicated to a street fund to be used for future street repair. There was discussion of the many lots in the city which are not assessed any fees. The council feels these empty lots should also be paying for streetlights, mosquito and the debt/sinking fee. Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to approve assessing a monthly utility bill of \$29.50 to all empty lots within the city to pay for the following services: streetlight fee, mosquito fee and debt/sinking fee for past infrastructure projects. Motion carried unanimously. The council discussed sending a citywide newsletter to the residents with information regarding some of the problems and issues in the city. They also thought this would be a good way to provide information on some of the ordinances. The auditor's office will compile this information and research the cost of sending this type of newsletter.

The next regular City Council meeting will be August 5, 2019. Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Nancy Lunde, City Auditor

Paul Paintner, Mayor

August 2019 Bills Paid

AGRI-SALES INCORPORATED	\$2,815.00
COOPERSTOWN MUN AIRPORT AUTH	\$1,146.63

AMERIPRIDE SERVICES	\$112.40
ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	\$1,282.32
BANK OF NORTH DAKOTA	\$111,985.00
BELLING TREE SERVICE	\$5,725.00
BLAINE LARSON	\$35.00
BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC	\$790.52
BRAGER DISPOSAL SERVICE	\$6,800.00
BRYAN HANSONSHEATING & COOL	\$683.00
BUILDING SYSTEMS CORP.	\$500.00
CHAD JOHNSON	\$35.00
CHRISTINE OLSON	\$35.00
CITY OF FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA	\$29.00
CLARION HOTEL	\$111.00
COACHMAN INN	\$235.00
COOPERSTOWN HARDWARE	\$224.60
ELECTRIC PUMP	\$765.70
EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUCTS	\$285.77
FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516	\$168.06
FINLEY MOTORS INC	\$87.71
GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE	\$799.02
H E EVERSON	\$32.55
HANSON ELECTRIC	\$126.60
HAWKINS INC	\$4,324.18
HIGH PLAINS WATER	\$28.00
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$128.95
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	\$151.23
KRABbenhOFT SERVICE	\$68.24
GRIGGS COUNTY LIBRARY	\$2,581.72
LUMBER MART INC	\$72.00
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES	\$112.00
MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS	\$125.00
MILLERS FRESH FOODS	\$646.47
MUG-A-BUG	\$528.68
NANCY LUNDE	\$35.00
NANCY PAINTNER	\$442.93
NAPA AUTO CARE CENTER	\$46.49
ND ONE CALL, INC	\$22.25
NETWORK CENTER COMM.	\$9.38
NEW CENTURY PRESS	\$143.45
OTTER TAIL POWER CO	\$3,490.93
COOPERSTOWN PARK BOARD	\$10,512.36
RANDY MYERS	\$35.00
REITEN, INC	\$472.82
SWEENEY CONTROLS CO.	\$906.00
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP	\$1,372.50
TOM GILBERTSON & SONS	\$800.00
TOWN & COUNTRY CO-OP	\$238.62
TYLER KELLER	\$25.03
VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC	\$150.00