

Cooperstown City Council Special Meeting  
June 26, 2018 – City Hall – 7:00 PM

Mayor Paintner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to reorganize the council after election. Members present included Paul Paintner, Rick Cushman, Tim Erickson, Welton Cochrane, Nic Zimprich and Bryan Ressler. Also present: Nancy Lunde, Blaine Larson, Chad Johnson and newly elected City Council members Deb Eslinger and Larry Olson and newly elected Park Board members Darce Holcomb and Kerry Sad. Absent: Lee Watne.

**Evaluations:** The current City Council held a discussion of the salaries of the city employees. The Personnel Committee of Zimprich and Cochrane reported on employee evaluations they had reviewed. They gave their recommendation of a 2.5% raise for all employees and a \$25.00 raise to the city assessor, to the council. After discussion Erickson moved, Ressler seconded, to approve a 2.5% raise to all 5 fulltime employees, janitor and landfill attendant and to raise the city assessor to \$400.00/month. Motion carried unanimously.

**Oath of Offices:** The Oath of Office was stated by the returning Mayor Paul Paintner, City Auditor Nancy Lunde and the new Council members Deb Eslinger and Larry Olson and new Park Board members Darce Holcomb and Kerry Sad.

**Elect President & Vice President:** Zimprich moved, Erickson seconded, to nominate Rick Cushman as President. Motion carried unanimously. Cushman moved, Olson seconded, to nominate Lee Watne as Vice President. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Appointments:** Committees for the governing board were reviewed. The council agreed to appoint the following members to the respective committees.

*Finance:* Zimprich

*Water & Sewer:* Erickson

*Streets & Alleys:* Cushman

*Board of Health:* Eslinger

*Personnel:* Zimprich & Eslinger

*Waterboard:* Erickson

*Library:* Zimprich

*Zoning Commission:* Watne

*Parks:* Zimprich

*Refuse & Inert:* Watne

*Renaissance Zone:* Olson

*Forestry:* Olson

*Ambulance:* Cushman

*EDC:* Paintner

*Ordinances & Blight:* All Members

**Other Appointments/Resolution:** Mayor Paintner appointed Nancy Lunde as the City Auditor, Phyllis Ratcliffe as the City Attorney and Farrah Saxberg as the City Assessor. Zimprich moved, Cushman seconded to ratify the appointment of Nancy Lunde as City Auditor, Phyllis Ratcliffe as the City Attorney and Farrah Saxberg as City Assessor. Motion carried unanimously. Zimprich moved, Eslinger seconded to approve a resolution to appoint Nancy Lunde, Paul Paintner and Rick Cushman as authorized to sign all documents relating to the business of the City of Cooperstown. Motion carried unanimously.

**Budget:** Harold Rotunda attended the meeting to speak with the council about the budget. He reviewed budget items with the council and answered many questions. He talked with the council about the types of revenue that the city receives and different

ways the city funds can be used. He reminded the council of some of the past projects the city has had and the current bond debt the city still has. He stated the interest rate on this bond debt is quite low. The preliminary budget will need to be submitted to the County Auditor by August 10. The council will discuss the budget again at the July 2, 2018 regular council meeting.

**Digital Speed Sign Software:** Nancy Lunde provided a quote on the cost of this software as previously requested by the council. The software is to be used with the digital speed sign which the city now has. After discussion Eslinger moved, Olson seconded, to approve the purchase of the digital sign software for \$400.00. Aye: Eslinger, Olson, Zimprich and Erickson. Nay: Cushman. Motion Carried.

**Appraisal/Lot Sales:** There was discussion regarding the old Jerry's Body Shop. In 2013 the building was valued at \$54,200. The building is deteriorating. There has been interest in the purchase of this building. For the past several years the City has rented storage space for vehicles at \$200.00 per vehicle per year. Rick Cushman suggested the council continue to rent storage spaces out. His suggestion is to have specifically measured out spaces and what fits in the space is for \$200.00 per year. Mayor Paintner suggested the City Council should go for a tour of all city buildings before the next council meeting. More discussion of the old body shop was tabled until next month. Nancy Lunde stated the quit claim deed for the S 15' of lots 1-5, block 54 has been completed by the city attorney and would be delivered to JM Zaun Inc. Nancy stated she had received one bid for the Lende property, Lots 13 & 14 block 48. There was discussion of this property. Mayor Paintner and Rick Cushman asked to be recused to avoid a conflict of interest. Nancy stated the special assessments on this property are \$265.74 per year and approximately \$95.00 per year for property tax. Zimprich moved, Olson seconded to accept the bid of \$1,000 with an additional \$100.00 to be paid for closing costs. Aye: Zimprich, Olson. Nay: Eslinger, Erickson. The motion died for lack of a vote to break the tie.

**Permits:** There was discussion regarding the measurement of city lots and the building permits the city issues to members of the community. The Council would like to change their policy and require all building projects in the city to get a survey done on their property to assure they do know where their lot lines are. Cushman moved with an amended motion, Eslinger seconded, to approve the Mark Urness Building Permit pending lot measurements by Blaine Larson. Motion carried unanimously. Cushman moved, Zimprich seconded, to approve the Larry Olson Building Permit. Motion carried unanimously.

The next regular City Council meeting will be July 2, 2018. Cushman moved, Eslinger seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:35 pm.

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Nancy Lunde, City Auditor

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Paul Paintner, Mayor

