

Public Hearing on TNT (unapproved)
City of Holdingford, City Center
December 12, 2011 6:30 p.m.

Present at the meetings:, Mike Odden, Lloyd Rausch, Susan Marstein, Ernie Schmit, Kim Ebnet, Vicki Statz, Dorine Rausch, Scott Lange, Pat Meier, Jeremy Freudenrich, Darrell Heitzman, Tony Stalberger, Tim Winter, Gordon Sjaaheim, Louise Winkler, Louis Walz, Jeremy Freudenrich, Milt Eiden.

Mayor Ernie Schmit called the public hearing on Truth in Taxation to order at 6:30 p.m. at the city center. The council went over the budget, including the amount of property taxes and LGA along with the enterprise funds and the Fire Department. He asked for any input from the public. Hearing none, Mike Odden made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Public Hearing on Vacating Alley (unapproved)
To the west of 131 River Street, Holdingford, MN

Mayor Ernie Schmit called the public hearing to order on vacating the alley and to quit claim deed the alley to the owners of 131 River Street. The Heitzman Family Irrevocable Trust is the current owner. Discussion was held on two options for the city. One is to vacate the alley and quit claim deed it to the Heitzman Trust or to retain possession of the alley but give an easement for as long as the garage is encroached on the alley. On this easement the garage may be set there for as long as the garage is in existence over and across that part of the 20 foot alley. Mr. Heitzman expressed concern that it may be harder to sell the property with the easement versus having a quit claim deed. The council expressed concern that if in the future the city would need to have use of the alley, it would have to buy back that piece of property. Hearing no further discussion motion to close the public hearing was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF

City Council Meeting Minutes (unapproved)
December 12, 2011

Mayor Ernie Schmit called the council meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Motion to certify the 2012 city budget was made on a motion by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Motion to rescind previous motion on vacating the alley to the west of 131 River Street from the November 14, 2011 council meeting was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

Motion to give an easement for all the proper purposes for as long as the encroaching garage on said property is in existence over and across part of the 20 foot wide alley to the west side of 131 River Street was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

Motion to approve checks was made by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Bank rec. for November was approved on a motion by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

Electronic transfers and debit card purchases for November was approved on a motion by Sue Marstein, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF

Motion to approve minutes of the November 14, 2011 public assessment hearing was made by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF

Motion to approve minutes of the November 14, 2011 council meeting was made by Sue Marstein, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

The Fire Department Report was given by Dorine Rausch. There have been no fire/rescue calls since the 1st of the month (new payroll). The Fire Relief donated to the city \$1,000 to cover costs of the Safe House project, batteries for smoke detectors. The Fire Relief also donated \$7,000 to the Truck Fund. Council went over the annual payroll for the Fire Department. Motion to accept the payroll was made on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF Total payroll for 2011 is \$24,517.50.

Fire Department calendars are out and will be sent to every home in the Holdingford Fire Department area.

There was a community service of 20 hours done by a young man. He helped paint in the Fire Department and helped with getting the calendars ready to send out.

Pagers were rebanded this past month. Cost for each pager was \$32. When the pagers were first purchased, the county had said the rebanding would be free. However, the Fire Department was charged along with all the other Fire Departments in the county. There were 27 pagers rebanded.

The bylaws for the F.D. will be gone over by the council at the January council meeting and also brought to the annual Fire Board meeting that will be held the last Wednesday in January. January 25, 2012 at 7 p.m. at city hall will be the Fire Board meeting for all the townships and city involved.

There are three current firefighters who have not completed their firefighter I or II training. They have until the end of 2012 to get this completed. One other firefighter has turned in his pager. There is one new application pending.

The Fire Department has requested that the Polar employees not park along their building where the fire trucks enter/exit the fire hall. When cars are parked there, it is very difficult for the fire trucks to get in and out of the fire hall.

Mayor Ernie Schmit gave his report. See end of minutes for details.

Old Business

Scott Lange reported that the street project is shut down for the winter. In the spring, the second layer of tarring will be put down, finishing touches of the landscaping will be gone over.

At the wastewater plant there are a couple items on back order. When they come in they will be installed. Pay application #4 for Rice Lake Construction in the amount of \$116,351.37 was approved on a motion by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

The southern expansion project was gone over at a meeting with Rural Development and our engineers and mayor last week. Over the winter, this will be worked on with possible approval from RD by February, bids put out and reviewed in March and assigning bids by April.

Televising of the sewer lines was done this past month. The city engineer does not have the CDs of this back yet. They televised Main St. the south part of town, (south of Washington,) and Co. Rd. 17 were all televised.

Excel Energy gave estimates for lighting at the parking lot by the Wobegon shelter. Two options: one with a 100w for \$7.18 + tax per month, or 250w for \$11.81 + tax. Council decided on the 100w for there. The other area is to light up the north side of the Veteran's parking lot especially in the winter when there is a skating rink in the parking lot. Two options are for this area: one with 250w for \$13.17 + tax per month or 400w for \$17.14 + tax per month. Council decided on the 400w for this area. Jeremy will call Bruce Powell at Excel to have these lights put in.

New Business

With the street project getting federal funds, the city will need to have additional auditing by our auditor for this year and next. It's called a single audit, with a cost of not more than \$5,500. This cost is project eligible, meaning it will be paid for by the project. The council also went over the new arrangement letter from our auditor.

The council also reviewed the General Fund Balance Policy and the Fund Balance Classifications. Resolution 11-12-12-01 to approve the General Fund Policy was approved on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

Discussion was held on the vacation usage. This was tabled until the January 2012 council meeting on a motion by Sue Marstein, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF Mayor Schmit will look into prorating vacation the way sick leave is being done.

Jeremy Freudenrich talked with Polar management about the possibility of employees parking in the empty lot across the street from city hall. Polar is favorable for them to do this. They will do the snow plowing for their employees. This will help the city maintenance workers in keeping the streets plowed this winter.

Jeremy thanked the city council for the upgrading of equipment and the purchase of a second vehicle for the maintenance department. This makes the work of the department go much smoother.

Pat Meier gave the Liquor Store report. Gross income for the month of November was \$28,455.30. Expenses were \$21,818.16. YTD lottery is \$3,863.08. YTD the Liquor Store is in arrears of (\$2,238.29). We are open on Sundays for the Vikings games. Bingo is on Tuesday nights, Dart League is on Wednesday nights. Friday has \$1.00 beer. Every other Saturday night we have card league.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria R. Statz
City Clerk