

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Heinen at 6:30 p.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen, and Council Members Jayme Knapp, Shannon Miller and Gary Theisen. Absent: Doug Schmitz. Others present: Brigid Murphy, Brian Lintgen, Jason Blum, Jon Stueve, Joann Thelen, Nick Laudenbach, Jen Laudenbach, Wayne Fink, Paul Fink, Mark Backes, Ann Kruger, Ted Kruger, Jeff Miller, Jean Sauer, Tammy Paczkowski, Jim Pauly, Rich Schreiner, Lawrence Theis, Jason Torborg, Curt Plzak, Karen Dwyer, Judy Gertken, Steve Gertken, John DeLozier, Arthur Bueckers, Kendra Reinert, Ethan Reinert, Kevin Ward, Dan Weber and Angie Mueller.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE MARCH 10, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – February 24, 2020 Special Meeting

B. Cold Spring Lions – Approve LG230 Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling at River Oaks Golf Course on May 16, 2020

MOTION WAS MADE BY MILLER, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

COUNTY ROAD 158 RECONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENT HEARING

Mayor Heinen opened the Improvement Hearing at 6:31 p.m. City Engineer Brian Lintgen explained that there was a misunderstanding between the County and the City on a portion of the project between 14th Avenue North and 17th Avenue North. He explained that in order to meet the requirements of state statutes for assessments the City needed to re-do the public improvement hearing for the project. He went on to give a presentation on the proposed construction project. Mayor Heinen then took comments from the audience.

1. Mark Backes – Backes stated that he would like the Council to consider deferring the principal for the street assessment for the A&D Backes Limited Partnership property. He stated that within the next three to five years the property would likely be developed or sold, and he would like to defer the principal amount of the street assessment until that occurs. Murphy stated that the final assessment hearing would be the appropriate time to consider this request and that the Council wouldn't need to take action until that time.

2. Art Bueckers – 1106 1st St S – Bueckers asked about annexing the properties along Co Rd 158 that are not in the city limits. Murphy explained that annexation is done through joint resolution with the property owners initiating or requesting to be annexed. She stated the City would consider it, if the property owners were to request it. He also asked if the lots in Maple Ridge are being assessed for this project, which Murphy explained they were not and that they paid an assessment when that development was constructed. He lastly asked about installing a traffic signal at Co Rd 158 and Highway 23. It was explained that he would need to contact MnDOT about that request as they make those decisions.

3. Lawrence Theis – 1225 1st St S – Theis inquired about the age of the sewer line from 12th to 14th Avenue. Lintgen explained that he didn't have the exact dates but it was newer than other sections on the project. Theis stated that since that section hasn't reached it's 50-year life expectancy that property owners shouldn't have to pay to replace it, the City should instead. Lintgen explained that staff has to use their best judgement and that replacing both the sewer and water at one time is the best option. He explained that existing utilities can get disrupted during the compaction of the construction process.

4. Curt Plzak – 1021 1st St S – Plzak explained that all the equity that he has earned since purchasing his property will be lost as a result of the assessment for the project. He inquired if the sidewalk would remain where it currently is and Lintgen explained that yes it would and in some instances the boulevard would be bigger.

5. Wayne Fink – 24 10th Ave S – Fink inquired how much larger his boulevard would be, Lintgen didn't know the that exact size, but explained that by narrowing the road the boulevard area would be increased.

6. Judy Gertken – 523 1st St S – Gertken inquired about school bus pick-ups and it was explained that the contractors would work with the bus companies to determine appropriate locations, with alleys possibly being an option.

7. Ethan Reinert – 1023 1st St S – Reinert inquired about parking, Lintgen explained that contractors will do their best to keep access to driveways open but when driveway aprons and curbs are poured, they will not be able to drive on them. He stated that workers will update property owners on those items.

8. Kevin Ward – 418 Main St – Ward inquired about his assessment, driveways and water pipe size. Murphy stated it would be best to set up a meeting to discuss the various questions for his property.

9. Jason Torborg – 1221 1st St S – Torborg inquired whether the Council would consider prorating the assessment amount for properties between 12th and 14th Avenue, since they received an assessment before for the street. Lintgen explained that the street assessment in 2000 or 2001 for those properties was low due to County cost participation and that the road has made it past half of it’s life expectancy.

10. James Pauly – 1403 1st St S – Pauly inquired about his assessment for the street, which Lintgen explained would be going away due to the fact that his property already paid a street assessment when the 14th Avenue North project was completed.

Several residents asked about the boulevard tree removal and Lintgen explained that contractors would be starting on that soon and that if property owners wanted the wood from their property they should let the contractors know. He added that trees in the right of way would be the only ones that would be taken down.

Mayor Heinen called three times for additional testimony, after hearing none the hearing was closed at 7:12 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-08 ORDER PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2020-08, A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENTS AND PREPARATIONS OF THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE “COUNTY ROAD 158 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT”. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO PURCHASE BATTERY OPERATED EXTRACTION TOOLS

Fire Chief Dan Weber explained that the current extraction equipment is 20 years old. He stated that the department has tried out the new equipment and it works well. He stated that their goal is to sell or donate the old equipment once the new equipment is received.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF BATTERY-OPERATED EXTRACTION CUTTER, SPREADER, RAM, POWER SUPPLY ADAPTER, AND SCENE LIGHT AT A COST OF \$33,154.50 AND FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND 31-40-42-6311. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

UTILITY EASEMENT FOR WATERLINE FROM DM DINGMANN FARMS, LLC

Stueve explained that easements are being obtained from two property owners and will allow for a more direct line route from Wells 8 and 9 to the Cold Spring Brewery Distribution Center. He stated that this method will allow for open cutting which will save money instead of directional drilling.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MILLER, SECONDED BY THEISEN, TO APPROVE ACCEPTING THE UTILITY EASEMENT FROM DM DINGMANN FARMS, LLC AT A COST OF \$7,413.50 AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS AND FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT FUND 13-70-71-6413. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

UTILITY EASEMENT FOR WATERLINE FROM JOSEPH E. FROEHLE TRUST, JULIE FROEHLE, EDDIE FROEHLE AND RAY FROEHLE

MOTION MADE BY MILLER, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE ACCEPTING THE UTILITY EASEMENT FROM JOSEPH E. FROEHLE TRUST, JULIE FROEHLE, EDDIE FROEHLE, AND RAY FROEHLE AT A COST OF \$7,278.00 AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS AND FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FOR OUT OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT FUND 13-70-71-6413. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Request to Purchase a Dump/Skid Loader Trailer

Stueve explained that the department has been getting by with a homemade trailer and had budgeted to replace it this year.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 14 FOOT DUMP/SKID LOADER TRAILER FROM FARM RITE EQUIPMENT AT A COST OF \$7,650.00, AND FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FOR 50% FROM THE STREET DEPARTMENT BUDGET EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM #6311 AND 50% FROM THE PARKS DEPARTMENT BUDGET EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM #6311. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

B. Request to Purchase a Skid Loader Bucket and Grapple

MOTION WAS MADE BY MILLER, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A SKID LOADER BUCKET AND GRAPPLE FROM FARM RITE EQUIPMENT AT A PRICE OF \$5,000.00 AND FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF THE STREETS DEPARTMENT BUDGET EQUIPMENT LINE ITEM #6311. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. County Road 158/1st Street South Update

Lintgen explained that tree clearing will begin next week and that bids are due at the end of the week. He explained that Centerpoint Energy would like to relocate their gas regulator station from the boulevard area where it is now, to behind the sidewalk on the west of the garage on the City Hall property.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO APPROVE CENTERPOINT ENERGY RELOCATING THEIR GAS REGULATOR STATION AND BEING IN FAVOR OF GRANTING AN EASEMENT FOR THE STATION. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

B. Water Treatment Plant Update

Lintgen explained that 60% of the design work is complete and that staff will be meeting in two weeks with Stantec to further discuss the plant.

C. Well 8 & 9 Update

Lintgen stated that they are starting on the test borings and that easements are being obtained as reported earlier by Stueve.

D. Scope of Work for Watermain from Well 8 & 9

Lintgen explained that Stantec has prepared a scope and fee estimate for the watermain design and construction administration for the new wells. He stated that the project is three phases, the first will be the wells, the second is the watermain installation before crops are planted, and the third is the pumps, controls, overhead power service and access roadway.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KNAPP, SECONDED BY MILLER, TO APPROVE THE SCOPE OF WORK AND FEES FOR THE WATERMAIN FROM WELLS 8 & 9. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Monthly Reports

Chief Blum provided a report on the monthly calls from February.

B. Other

Chief Blum advised the public to keep their doors locked to deter thefts. He stated that several agencies will be participating in training which will be held at Rocori High School on March 18th. He wanted the public to be aware so that it doesn't create any concerns. Lastly, he reminded the public of the free hands- only CPR classes coming up.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. EAW Update – Cold Spring Brewing Company

Murphy explained that three agencies have requested copies of the EAW, but no feedback has been received on it. She stated that the comment period will end on March 25th. She stated that there may be a request for a special council meeting on March 31st to address the EAW. She added that another special meeting may be requested to discuss Tax Increment Financing.

B. Moody's Rating Update

Murphy stated that Moody's upgraded their bond rating for Cold Spring.

C. Update on Direct Balloting

Murphy explained that there were seven days for direct balloting before the presidential nominating primary and that only six ballots were cast during that time. She provided the costs for direct voting of \$2,000.69 and total cost of the presidential nominating primary of \$4,121.58. She stated that these expenses are supposed to be reimbursed by the State. She stated the City will also need to provide direct balloting in August and November and the County

will only reimburse \$757.50 for each of those elections. She provided a letter that the City of Albany had written to Stearns County urging them to reconsider requiring direct balloting at smaller cities. The Council was in favor of staff sending a similar letter and agreed that this is not a good use of taxpayer dollars. They also discussed personally contacting Stearns County Commissioners about this matter.

D. Legislative Day at the Capital

Murphy explained that Mayor Heinen, Councilor Knapp and herself would be attending the Legislative Day at the Capital.

E. Community Showcase

Murphy explained that the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce would be hosting the Community Showcase on April 4th and that a schedule for hosting the booth would be coming soon.

F. Update on the Fire Hall RFP

Murphy stated that there were 35 inquires about the Request for Proposals and that there were 13 submissions. She stated that staff reviewed the submissions and rated their top six for further consideration. The Planning Commission will next review the 13 submissions to provide their feedback to the Council which will then review them on March 24th at a Council Workshop.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY THEISEN, SECONDED BY KNAPP, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$158,925.67 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$122,286.56 PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY MILLER, SECONDED BY THEISEN, TO ADJOURN AT 7:48 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

David Heinen, Mayor

Brigid Murphy, City Administrator