

Walnut Grove, MN

December 12, 2011

The City Council met in a regular session on the 12th day of December, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

Present: Greg Hansen, Todd Harrington, Leonard McLaughlin, Xiong Yang and Jeff Harnack

Also Present: Tom Hansen, Mike Zeug and Bryan Kuebelbeck

Mayor Hansen presided at the meeting

The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing was opened at 7:00 PM for public comment on the proposed budget. No residents asked to make comments. A couple changes were made in the budget proposal presented to the county in September but the total levy did not change. Motion by Xiong Yang, second by Leonard McLaughlin to approve Resolution 2011-1212 certifying the Tax Levy in 2011 for collection in 2012 of \$162,453 for the General Fund and the Tax Levy of \$41,547 for the Government Improvement Bonds of 2004 to the County of Redwood for collection in 2012. The 2012 General Fund Budget total is \$441,932. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Water/Wastewater report was presented by Bryan Kuebelbeck. PeopleService rates will increase \$267 based on the Consumer Price Index increase. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Todd Harrington to approve the 2012 rates. All voted in favor, motion carried

The Maintenance Report was given by Tom Hansen. The sound system in the Community Center is now working. The mixer has been replaced. Asbestos removal has been completed on the two buildings on Main Street. Tom will talk to local contractors to get quotes for the demo of the buildings.

The Police Report was given by Chief Zeug. The city has purchased a gun/ evidence safe for the police office. The council has asked for the Police Department to check for any unlicensed vehicles in the city limits. They will begin ticketing vehicles that are not licensed. Discussion was held on police training and the purchasing a membership to MN West for required police training. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Todd Harrington to approve the \$325 training membership. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Council discussed Walnut Grove Facility Plan and determined they would not approve going forward with the project until they have more information as to the amount of funding the city is eligible for in grants. Further discussion will continue at a later meeting or workshop.

Work Experience, which is the organization that is employing Judy Anderson who is doing her training at the City office has requested donations so they can continue their program for seniors. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin second by Xiong Yang to approve a \$200 donation to Work Experience. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The 2012 Fund Balance Policy was reviewed by the council. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to approve the policy and the resolutions for restricting and committing funds. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The council reviewed and approved the ACH agreement with Integrity Bank to allow for the Direct depositing of employee payroll checks.

The current City Policies were reviewed by the council. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Todd Harrington to approve the current policies without changes.

Motion by Xiong Yang, second by Leonard McLaughlin to move all full time employees, the Bar & Grill employees, and Isaac Wahl to the next step on the wage chart. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Todd Harrington to increase the TASC (Insurance reimbursent/medical flex) benefit from \$375 per month to \$400 per month for the Full Time employees. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Ambulance on call pay. The Ambulance members voted to be paid for being on call based on the number of times they are on call for the year. The amount shared among the members for on call will be \$5000. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Xiong Yang to approve this method of payment for being "On Call". Councilmen Harrington, McLaughlin, Yang, & Mayor Hansen voted in favor. Councilman Harnack abstained. Motion carried.

The City council thankfully accepts a donation from the Francis Harnack Post 582. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Todd Harrington to approve the resolution accepting the donation for the Ambulance and Fire Departments. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on Discontinuing Collecting security deposits for City utilities. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to discontinue deposits. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Todd Harrington to approve the Minutes for the Nov. 14, 2011 regular meeting. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Leonard McLaughlin second by Jeff Harnack to approve Claims #33806 through 33942. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey
Clerk-Treasurer