

City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
City of Tower
January 12, 2015
Monday @ 5:30PM
City Council Chambers

The regular meeting of the Tower City Council was called to order by Mayor Josh Carlson.

Present: Broten, Carlson, Dougherty, Hiltunen, and Matich.

Absent: None

Also Present: L Keith and S Mayer

Visitors: Sheldon Majerle, Elly Power, Steve Altenburg, Matt Tichel, Matt Bolf (SEH Engineering), and Phyllis Burgess.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to approve the minutes of the last meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to accept the agenda with the following amendments:

9.20 Fire Department Officer Wages

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None.

Correspondence: None.

Written reports were received from the Maintenance Department, Ambulance Department, Fire Department, and Police Department.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Matich to approve the reports from officers. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Broten to approve the reports from commissions and committees. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Matich to contact Saint Louis County and State of Minnesota regarding trading land near the Gunderson Road for land to connect to other city owned properties in Kugler Township. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Broten to give the second

reading of Ordinance # 87 an ordinance accepting the proposed changes to the City of Tower Charter as recommended by the City of Tower Charter Commission. The motion carried unanimously. The Ordinance has been previously published in the Timberjay newspaper and will become effective April 12, 2015 ninety days after its adoption.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to grant an easement to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for right of way work on the new trunk highway 135. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the easement is on file in the City Clerk Treasurer's office.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to authorize the organizers of the Wolf Track Classic to temporarily close a section of South Pine Street for the crossing of sled dogs during the Wolf Track Classic to be held on February 22, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Matich to follow current City of Tower policy to place Nick Bjorgo, Robert Dale, and Tera Kultala on corrective action for failure to make the minimum number of required ambulance calls. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Broten to change the salaries of the assistant ambulance supervisors from \$400 per month to \$500 per month retroactively effective January 1, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Broten to authorize Ambulance Supervisor Tuchel to reduce the selling price of the old Ford Ambulance to \$22,000 and to accept any offers close to that price without going below \$18,000. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to authorize Clerk Treasurer Keith to contract with Steve Abrahamson of the Vermilion Land office to prepare appraisals for the City owned Hoodoo Point Cabin Leases. Councilors Dougherty, Hiltunen, and Matich and Mayor Carlson assented. Councilor Broten abstained.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to amend the City of Tower Public Utility Policy to state that all public utility accounts must be sent to the property owner and not the renter. The motion carried unanimously. The City of Tower will continue to send complimentary copies of public utility bills to renters and will receive payments from renters.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Hiltunen to accept the 2015 Reorganization as follows:

	City of Tower Reorganization 2015	Rate
Acting Mayor	William Hiltunen	
City Attorney	Cope & Peterson	
City Engineer	Short, Elliott, & Hendrickson	
City Depositories	Frandsen Bank & Trust	
	Embarrass Vermilion Federal Credit Union	
	Minnesota 4M Fund	
Meal Reimbursement	Dinner	\$ 25.00
	Lunch	\$ 20.00
	Breakfast	\$ 15.00
Mileage Reimbursement	Per Federal Mileage Rate	\$ 0.57
Designated Investment Consultant	Nick Skarich (Dougherty & Company LLC)	
Official Newspaper	Timberjay	
Planning & Zoning Commission <small>(1 Council Rep & Zoning Administrator 3 yr Terms)</small>	Stephen Abrahamson (2015)	
	William Hiltunen (2016)	
	Dan Broten (2017)	
	John Niemiste (2016)	
	Steve Altenburg (2017)	
Harbor Committee	Steve Abrahamson (At Large)	
	Josh Carlson (Council Rep)	
	Linda Keith (City Hall)	
	Steve Altenburg (At Large)	
Emergency Management Director	Bob Dale	\$ 200.00
Public Utilities Commission	William Hiltunen	
	Josh Carlson	
Public Property Commission	Dan Broten	
	Lance Dougherty	
Tower Breitung Wastewater Board	William Hiltunen	
	Lance Dougherty	
Joint Powers Recreation Board	Joan Broten	
	Linda Keith	
Liquor Commission	Brad Matich	
	Dan Broten	
	Breitung Police Chief J Anderson	
Fire Department	Chief - Steve Altenburg	\$ 500.00
	Assistant Chief - Lance Dougherty	\$ 250.00
	Secretary - Stephanie Carlson	\$ 25.00
	Training Officer - Mike Larsen	\$ 200.00
	Captain / Safety Officer - Mike Raj	\$ 200.00
Ambulance Department	Supervisor - Matt Tichel	\$1,300.00
	Assistant Supervisor - Steve Altenburg	\$ 500.00
	Assistant Supervisor - Dena Suihkonen	\$ 500.00
	Training Officer - Nick Levens	\$ 400.00

Gambling Commission	Dan Broten
	Stephen Abrahamson
Airport Commission	Sheldon Majerle
	Bruce Carlson
	Rick Worringer
	John Burgess
	Linda Keith
Forestry Board (3 Yr Terms 1 Council Rep)	Sheldon Majerle (2017)
	Steve Wilson (2017)
	Bob Heisel (2016)
	Stephen Abrahamson (2016)
	Joan Broten (2015) Council Rep
Ambulance Commission	Matt Tuchel
	William Hiltunen
	Lance Dougherty - Alternate
Police Commission	William Hiltunen
	Steve Altenburg
Gundersen Trust (3 yr Terms) (3 at Large, 2 Forest Board Members & 2 Council Rep)	Gretchen Niemiste (2016) (AL)
	Linda Keith (2017) (AL)
	Sheldon Majerle (2016) (FB)
	Lance Dougherty (2018) (CR)
	Valerie Lenci (2017) (AL)
	Stephen Abrahamson (2015) FB
	Josh Carlson (2018) (CR)
Commercial Rehabilitation	Brad Matich
	Josh Carlson
	Diane Meehan
	Sunday Young
Charter Commission	Ann Lamppa
	Randy Johnson
	Jodi Reichensperger
	Steve Altenburg
	Steve Abrahamson
	Stephanie Carlson
	Sheldon Majerle
Lodging Tax Commission	Josh Carlson
	Linda Keith
Board of Adjustment (3 Yr Terms must be residents of City)	Sheldon Majerle (2017)
	Steve Abrahamson (2016)
	Lance Dougherty (2015)
Zoning Administration	Steve Abrahamson
	Josh Carlson Alternate

Grievance Committee	Josh Carlson
	Lance Dougherty
	Steve Altenburg
AFSCME Negotiation Committee	Full Council
MAPE Negotiation Committee	Full Council
Employee Relations Committee	Lance Dougherty
	Josh Carlson
	William Hiltunen - Alternate
Tower Economic Development Authority	Full Council
Check Signatories	Josh Carlson
(Mayor & Clerk)	Linda Keith
EMT Work Loss Reimbursement Rate	\$20.00 Per Hour
Blight Officers	Full Council
	Maintenance Supervisor
	Maintenance Assistant
	City Clerk - Treasurer
	Deputy Clerk - Treasurer
Blight Committee	Brad Match
	Josh Carlson
	Lance Dougherty
	Steve Altenburg
Monthly Meeting Date, Time, & Place	Second & Fourth Mondays
	5:30PM
	City Council Chambers
Community Coalition Joint Powers Board	Delegate: Joan Broten
	Alternate: Lance Dougherty

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to remove Gary Burgess from the Gundersen Trust. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to name the Timberjay as the official City of Tower Newspaper. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Hiltunen to grant the Tower Firemen's Relief Association a temporary liquor license for February 28, 2015 with the requirement of the standard liquor liability coverage in the amount of \$1,500,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to approve the final Runway Reconstruction Project pay estimate in the amount of \$10,390.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to officially close out the Runway Reconstruction Project identified as State Project number 3-27-0148-10-12. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to resolve that **Whereas**, in 2005, Congressman James Oberstar designated federal transportation funding to complete multiple safety improves on trunk highway 169 between Virginia and Winton; and

Whereas, there have been continual accidents whereby several accidents resulted in the loss of life; and

Whereas, the Highway 169 task force has spent countless hours working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to establish the preferred Alternative 3A/South Alignment; and

Whereas, the preferred Alternative 3A provides the citizens of our community and surrounding communities the least economic, social, and environmental impacts; and

Whereas, the preferred Alternative 3A enables our emergency services team to respond the most efficiently and in the best interest of patient care; and

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Tower supports the Highway 169 Task Force and their recommendations; and

Now therefore be it resolved the City Council of the City of Tower, Minnesota does hereby adopt this resolution in support of the preferred Alternative 3A Reconstruction Plan to improve the safety of trunk highway 169 for our citizens and all those who will travel the road for years to come. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to resolve that that the City of Tower act as the legal sponsor for project(s) contained in the Redevelopment Grant Program to be submitted on February 1, 2015 and that the Mayor of Tower is hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for funding of this project on behalf of the City of Tower.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Tower has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability to ensure adequate project administration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sources and amounts of the local match identified in the application are committed to the project identified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Tower has not violated any Federal, State or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, The City of Tower may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project(s), and that the City of Tower certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulation as stated in all contract agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Mayor and the City Clerk – Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to accept the Breitung Police Contract Increase of \$246.19 per month. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to accept the lease agreement with American Tower as presented and conditional upon approval from the City Attorney. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to approve pay estimate number 2 from Marine Tech LLC in the amount of \$373,679.05. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to approve the Dougherty Financial Investment Agreement as presented. The motion carried unanimously. A complete copy of the agreement is on file with the City Clerk Treasurer.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to adopt the City Fee Schedule as follows:

CITY OF TOWER LEASES, LICENSES, RATES, PERMITS		2015
		AMOUNT
LEASES:	Boathouses	\$ 550.00
	Hunting Shacks	\$ 550.00
	Hangars	.27 per sq ft commercial
		\$ 325.00 Minimum rate
		13 cents per square foot non-commercial
	City Lots	\$ 150.00
	Tower Leases	2,000 /year
	Cabins	5% of appraised value
	Liquor Store	\$500/month
	Hoodoo Point Docks	\$500.00 Per Side
LICENSES:	Liquor on sale	\$ 2,750.00
	Liquor off sale	\$ 150.00
	3.2 beer on sale	\$ 150.00
	3.2 beer off sale	\$ 150.00
	Wine on sale	\$ 100.00
	Sunday Liquor	\$ 200.00 set by State
	Cigarettes	\$ 150.00
	Dog/Cat	\$ 5.00
RATES:	Civic Center all day	\$ 250.00
	Civic Center part day	\$ 50.00
	Kugler Fire Protection	\$ 100.00 per residence
	Campground	\$ 2,300.00 seasonal
	Campground Surcharge	\$1.00 per day per camper including seasonal
	Water	44.75 per quarter
	Sewer	77.25 per quarter
		Minimum water/sewer per quarter: \$186
PERMITS:	Building Permits	0.15 per sq ft (500 to 4000 sq ft)
	Maximum Building Permi	\$ 600.00
	Minimum Building Permit	\$ 50.00
	Vendors	\$ 25.00
	Sign Permits	\$ 50.00
	Event Permits	\$ 200.00
<u>OTHER FEES</u>		
	Copy of Zoning Ordinance	\$ 5.00
	Copy of Charter	\$ 5.00
	Fence Permit	\$ 25.00
	Conditional Use Permit	\$ 100.00
	Variance Request	\$ 100.00
	Water Connection Fee	\$ 1,500.00
	Sewer Connection Fee	\$ 1,500.00
	Fireworks - Retail	\$ 100.00
	Building Permit - Deck	\$ 25.00
	Pit Run Gravel	\$2.00/yard
	Subdivision Fees	\$ 500.00
	Grave Digging	\$ 400.00
	Grave Digging Weekend	\$ 800.00
	Farmer's Market / Festival Fee	\$ 200.00

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Broten to increase the Fire Chief's monthly wage to \$500.00 per month. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Matich to pay all bills. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Matich to adjourn. Time out was 7:46PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda K Keith".

Linda K Keith
City Clerk Treasurer