

City Council Meeting  
Regular Meeting  
City of Tower  
December 12, 2017  
Monday @ 5:30PM  
City Council Chambers

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

Present: Anderson, Carlson, Dougherty, Fitton, and Matich

Absent: None

Also Present: L Keith

Visitors: Steve Altenburg, Tony Sikora, Marshall Helmberger, Orlyn Kringstad, Jason Chopp, Sheldon Majerle, and Terri Joki-Martin

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Anderson to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Public Input:

Correspondence:

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Matich to utilize City of Tower Property of the Gundersen Road to secure a logging road for Saint Louis County logging operations. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Fitton to deny Layton Humphrey's request for compensation for tree brushing around his hangar. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to send a letter to Saint Louis County Commissioner Rukavina supporting the Lake Vermilion Bike Trail. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Dougherty to accept the reports from officers, commissions, and committees as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to authorize the

Tower Economic Development Authority to coordinate with the IRRRB and Lamppa Manufacturing to build approximately an 8500 square foot manufacturing facility. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to forward the request to add additional street lighting to trunk highway 169. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Matich to authorize the City Clerk Treasurer to secure a rental contract with Jess and Clint Hughes for their property located at 704 North Second Street for ambulance living quarters. Councilors Anderson, Fitton, and Matich and Mayor Carlson assented. Councilor Dougherty dissented. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Matich to have the City Clerk Treasurer consult with the City Attorney regarding the illegal fence installed at 205 North Third Street. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Fitton to approve Hoodoo Point Sewer Project Pay Estimate # 1 in the amount of \$148,658.09. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to authorize the airport commission to make application to the Federal Aviation Administration for a 2018 airport project grant. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Anderson to authorize the City Engineer to apply for a MN/DOT Aeronautics emergency grant to convert the airport mound system to a holding tank system. Councilors Anderson, Dougherty, Fitton and Matich assented. Mayor Carlson abstained. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Fitton to make necessary upgrades to the Hangar Lease as outlined by the airport commission. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the updated lease is on file in the City Clerk Treasurer's office.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to set the airport tie down fee at a \$1.00 per day for stays over 30 days. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Carlson to resolve that **Whereas**, The City of Tower pursuant to action taken has met to review and finalize the 2018 Water and Sewer Fund Deposits.; and **Whereas**, following their review, the City Council of the City of Tower has determined that the Final 2018 Water Budget be set at \$123,007.50; and

**Whereas**, following their review the City Council of the City of Tower has determined that the Final 2018 Sewer Budget shall be set at \$93,400.00; and

**Now therefore be it resolved** the City Council of the City of Tower has adopted the Final Budget for 2018;

**Be it further resolved**, Linda K Keith is hereby directed to certify said budget to the Saint Louis County Auditor.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Anderson to table approving the 2018 City Budget until December 18, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Carlson to resolve that WHEREAS, the City of Tower maintains a municipal water and sewer system; and WHEREAS, Per City of Tower Ordinance Numbers One and Two the City Council may establish water and sewer rates and charges to be implemented as part of the use of the Tower Breitung Wastewater Service; and

WHEREAS, the office of the City Clerk Treasurer has recommended to the City that an increase be implemented to increase the sewer rate by \$15.00 per property effective with the January 2018 water billing, therefore changing the rate as outlined below;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF TOWER AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That effective with the January 2018 water billing, the water and sewer rate will be increased as follows:
  - a. Each property owner with water and sewer service fully activated will pay \$202.50 per quarter (Additional water usage after 9,000 gallons will be billed an additional \$2.45 per 1,000 gallons used)
  - b. Each property owner with only water service activated will pay \$124.50 per quarter (Additional water usage after 9,000 gallons will be billed an additional \$2.45 per 1,000 gallons used)
  - c. Each property owner with only sewer service activated will pay \$126.65 per quarter.
  - d. Each property owner with water and sewer service inactivated will pay \$79.00 per quarter.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and City Clerk Treasurer are hereby authorized to sign all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Fitton to give the first reading to Ordinance 81 an Ordinance Extending the Corporate City Limits of Tower. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Anderson to increase the Maintenance Working Foreman's longevity rate by \$1,000 to a new total of \$29,100.00. Councilors Anderson, Dougherty, Fitton, and Matich assented. Mayor Carlson dissented. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Fitton to cancel the contract between MAPE and the City of Tower effective January 1, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Matich to enter into a contract with the Teamster's Union for the City Clerk Treasurer position. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Fitton and supported by Dougherty to pay all bills. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Fitton to adjourn. Time out was 7:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda K Keith  
City Clerk Treasurer