

City of Tower
Regular Meeting
March 14, 2011
Monday @ 5:30 PM
City Council Chambers

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

Present: Abrahamson, Carlson, Dougherty, Hiltunen, Nevala
Absent: None
Also Present: Lamppa

Visitors: Nancy Larson, Ann Flannagan, Jim Macomber, Muriel Scott, Ken Kube, Bernie Zollar, Christina Hujanen, Steve Altenburg, John Zaitz, Jodi Summit
Sheldon Majerle, Rolando Noyes, John Jamnick

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Nevala to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented by the Deputy Clerk. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlson supported by Dougherty to accept the agenda with the addition of: 8.11 Custom Fire Change Order #4. All yes. Motion carried.

Public Input: None

Correspondences: None

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to accept written reports from the Police Department, Maintenance Department, Ambulance Department, Project Consultant, and an oral report from the Assistant Fire Chief. All yes. Motion carried.

Reports from Commission and Committees:

Tower Airport Commission: February minutes had been received, no action by City Council necessary at this time.

Historic Harbor Renaissance: Matt Bolf reported that the spring start up date to continue work on the bridge is April 11, 2011.

Planning and Zoning: No meeting.

Tower Economic Development Authority: Abrahamson reported on the

last TEDA meeting which center around the purchase of sections of the Tower Soudan school.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Dougherty approve the purchase of ambulance box from Marque at a cost of \$82,551. All yes. Motion carried.

Steve Abrahamson and Nancy Larson gave an update on the trail from Hoodoo Point to McKinley Park. Grants are being applied for and Breitung Township will serve as the applicant. The DNR portion of the trail is .85 miles and the rest belongs to either the City or the Township. The Mayor had written a letter of support as part of the grant applications.

A discussion on the North 2nd Street Sewer Project was held, along with a discussion on sewer inspections. All homes along the route where new tar will be placed will need an inspection.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to authorize RLK to bid the N 2nd Street Sewer Project. All yes. Motion carried.,

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to charge all home owners \$150 for the sewer inspection. Yes: Carlson, Hiltunen, Abrahamson, Nevala. No: Dougherty. Motion carried.

The Community Coalition Joint Powers Board was discussed. Because the City has agreed to be the fiscal agent for the Organization and allowed a bank account to be opened, using the City's Federal ID number and the City Clerk of Tower as a contact person; governmental accounting standards require the City to report those resources in an agency fund. The agency fund must be reported as a fund of the City in the City's financial statements.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to approve the March monthly coalition report and pay bills. All yes. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on repairs to the civic center roof and new insulation. Nancy Larson is searching for grants to help cover these repairs. Any grant would require that an energy audit be completed.

Motion by Dougherty supported by Carlson to hire Andy Imig, Arrowhead Energy & Comfort Solutions to do the energy audit for \$450. All yes Motion carried.

John Zaitz from the Tower Cemetery Association was present to once again request that the City help out with digging graves as no private contractors are interested. The Mayor will check what are other cities are charge for this service.

Motion by Nevala supported by Dougherty to approve Charter

Commission Resolution No. 2011-11, which instructs the District Judge to appoint the following members to the Tower Charter Commission: Steve Altenburg, Stephen Abrahamson, Ed Majerle and Sheldon Majerle. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlson supported by Nevala to place Donald Doroff on the Airport Commission. All yes. Motion carried.

After a discussion on the subdivision fee, it was tabled until the next meeting.

The airport fuel system needs to have the water and sludge removed from the tank. We have received one estimate from Determan Browne, Inc. and are waiting to receive the estimate from OSI.

Motion by Dougherty supported by Hiltunen to allow the mayor and one councilor to approve the vendor upon recommendation of Ed Majerle. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlson supported by Hiltunen to approve Custom Fire Change Order #4 which includes deleting the portable pump's pressure gauge and exhaust primer and add ball valve on portable pump. All yes. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on the new city logo. More work needs to be done.

The TS Historical Society requested that the City of Tower pay for the phone line for the security system in the Depot.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to for the City to pay half the phone bill for the next two years. Yes: Hiltunen, Carlson, Dougherty. No: Nevala. Abstain: Abrahamson. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to pay the bills. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Nevala supported by Dougherty to adjourn. Time: 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lamppa
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer