

City of Tower
June 8, 2009
Monday @ 5:30 PM
City Council Chambers

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

Present: Abrahamson, Hanson, Heinowski, Hiltunen, Nevala
Absent: Hiltunen
Also Present: Kotzian, Lamppa

Visitors: Josh Carlson, Lance Dougherty, Matt Bolf, Peter Wargowsky, Jodi Summit, Dave Sorensen, Patricia Raj, Dave Dale, Heidi Dale, Mike Raj, Steve Altenburg, Sheldon Majerle, Terry Driscoll, Linda Decasmirro, Bobby Anderson, John Jamnick, Shannon Shultz, Bernie Metler, Karel Winkelaar, Brenda Winkelaar, Megan Meehan

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to approve the minutes of May 6, 2009 and May 11, 2009. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Nevala supported by Heinowski to accept the agenda with the addition of: 8.7 MN Power Easement. All yes. Motion carried.

Hiltunen arrived at 5:35 PM.

No public input.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to accept reports from the following departments: Maintenance, Police, Ambulance, Fire, Blight, and City Clerk. All yes. Motion carried.

Reports from Commissions and Committees.

The Tower Airport Commission, Safety Commission, Planning and Zoning had nothing to report.

Matt Bolf gave an update on the Historic Harbor. Acquisition, of all concerned land area, is still being worked on and one of the land areas in question requires an easement with MN Power. The EA requires one more signature.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hiltunen to approve the easement between the City of Tower and MN Power which allows MN Power access to Government Lot Three (3), Section Five (5), Township Sixty-one (61) North, Range Fifteen (15) West. All yes. Motion carried.

A meeting was set up for Monday, May 15th at 1:30 PM for the City's representatives and Bolf to go over other concerns of the Harbor Project.

The TEDA report was given by Dave Sorensen. He reported that representatives from the Crookston EDA had been here and they will have a report ready for TEDA by the end of July.

Sorenson also stated that TEDA was not selected for the Greater MN Housing Program this year, but they will reapply for next year.

Grabko and Sorenson have also been working on the Hinkel project. Hanson had received a call from Hinkel requesting an extension of time.

Motion by Hanson supported by Heinowski to keep working with Hinkel on the forestry property over the next few months. All yes. Motion carried.

TEDA is also looking at IRR Discretionary Funds to help with cost of a TEDA director.

Other items that will be on TEDA's agenda tomorrow include Heavy Metal Hockey and Powerain.

Police Protection: The Police Commission met and recommended coverage for 18 hours a week for the interim. The County Sheriff's office has been in contact with Chief Hill on the car. A meeting with St. Louis County Sheriff is scheduled for Wednesday of this week.

Steve Altenburg presented a petition to change the police protection back to Breitung. Josh Carlson spoke in favor of the petition. Heidi Dale was concerned about police coverage during an accident. Terry Driscoll wanted to know what the likely hood of going back with Breitung Township was.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Nevala to approve the IRR Resolution Grant #B43-2289 for \$250,000 to water infrastructure upgrades on North Third Street, North Second Street Ally and Norway Street. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hiltunen to award the security work at the Depot to Security Systems. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hanson supported by Hiltunen amend Harbor Project #A-Tower0702.00 not to exceed an additional \$47,687 for work on land issues not anticipated. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to approve Pay Request #1 in the amount of \$13,205 to Klamm Mechanical Contractors for furnace work done at the Tower Civic Center. All yes. Motion carried.

John Jamnick of RLK gave an update on the fire in Northstar Addition. He assured the council that the fire debris would be cleaned up. Thank you's to be written to Breitung Fire Department and the DNR.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Nevala to approve the Tower Ambulance Service Complaint Procedure. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to call for bids on the North area infrastructure improvement project. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Nevala to approve payment to VanDeusen in the amount of \$444.92 for overcharges of fuel at the Seaplane Base. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Hanson to approve the closing of Poplar Street on the South side of Main Street during the 3rd and 4th of July. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Nevala to approve the closing of Birch Street for 1 block on the south side of Main Street and the use of the City garage on the 4th of July. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Nevala to get quotes on replacing the furnace at the Hoodoo Point Store. All yes. Motion carried.

The Fire Chief requested a reduction in rates for fire fighters who use the Civic Center. The Council suggested that he put the request in writing for a specific amount.

A discussion was held on the Trail Kiosk. The kiosk needs some repair and a good cleaning. It was suggested that the Historical Society and the Chamber be contacted to see if they would help.

Fire truck purchase was deferred to the budget meeting.

The City/County land exchange is still in process.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to support the DNR's special hunting season for the area north of the City proper and the Tower Soudan State Park. All yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Heinowski to adjourn: Time: 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lamppa
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer