



CITY OF TOWER
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Civic Center and e-GoToMeeting

July 13, 2020

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Mayor Orlyn Kringstad called the e-City Council meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Present: Councilor Sheldon Majerle, Mayor Orlyn Kringstad, Councilor Mary Shedd, Councilor David Setterberg

2. Accept Agenda

The Clerk/Treasurer requested the following:

Remove 5.2 from the Consent Agenda.

Move 5.3 from the Consent Agenda to 6.12 in New Business

Motion by Shedd to accept the amended agenda. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. Accept the minutes of the June 08, 2020 Regular Council meeting.

Motion to approve Setterberg to accept minutes. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Accept the minutes of the June 22, 2020 Special Meeting meeting.

A motion by Shedd to accept minutes. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Accept the minutes of the June 26, 2020 Special Meeting meeting.

A motion by Shedd to accept minutes. Second by Majerle. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. Public Input

None.

5. Consent Agenda
5.1 Reports

~~5.2 Fire, Training Reimbursement Grant~~

~~5.3 Fire, Firehouse Public Safety Foundation Life Saving Equipment Grant~~

5.4 Resolution 2020-028, Approve County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

5.5 Recreation, Request for Trailhead Kiosk

Sheldon requested that American Tower and the hosting meeting at the Civic Center be added to the agenda as 6.13 and 6.14.

Motion by Shedd to accept the consent agenda. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried by roll call vote.

6. New Business

6.1 Resignation, Councilor

A motion by Shedd to accept resignation of Councilor Rachel Beldo. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Orlyn to write a letter of thanks.

Motion by Majerle to declare a vacancy on the City Council and seek eligible candidates for Council appointment [using the same application process previously established]. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

A motion by Shedd to Seek eligible candidates by posting in both newspapers, with a due date of July 31, 2020. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Attorney provided the clarification that the winner of the election in November 2020 will take the seat immediately upon certification of the win. This also affects the vacancy created by Steve Abrahamson.

Mayor Orlyn Kringstad was the alternate on the Tower Economic Development Authority and he will fill that position.

A motion by Kringstad to appoint David Setterberg as Acting Mayor. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

A motion to set a special meeting on August 5, 2020 to review eligible candidates. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.2 Elections, Ordering a Special Election, Resolution 2020-029

A motion by Majerle to approve Resolution 2020-029. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

~~6.3 Election, Appoint Election Judges, Resolution 2020-030~~

6.4 Ambulance, Paid On-Call Quarters

Ambulance Director presented a paid on-call rental quarters at 514 N 2nd St. for \$675/mo option. Water and sewer are included in rental cost. Heat is via propane. The Department will not be installing cable at this location.

A motion by Setterberg to rent the Sundahl property. Second by Majerle. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.5 Ambulance, Posting Ambulance Supervisor

A motion by Shedd that the Ambulance Director and Clerk/Treasurer have a job description to review for review and posting at the August 5, 2020 Special meeting. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.6 Sewer/Water, Public Utility Rate Increase

A motion by Setterberg to send a notice to public utility customers that the rate will be increasing. That the increase fees by \$10 per billing period for Quarter 3 and 4 in 2020; \$15 in 2021, and \$20 in 2022. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.7 Sewer, Addressing Water Infiltration and Inflow

A motion by Setterberg to set up an ad-hoc workgroup Councilor Setterberg, TBWWB Supervisor Matt Tuchel, and City Maintenance Working Foreman Ben Velcheff, and other experts as needed, to identify sewer issues and make recommendations. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.8 Fire, Chief Wage remainder of FY2020

Clerk/Treasurer presented an awareness of the Fire Chief's workload and time versus compensation does not seem commensurate. The Clerk/Treasurer did not have time to analyze this further.

A motion by Setterberg to table this issue and make any decision retroactive to July 1. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.9 Fire, Ladder Truck Disposition

No written agenda item. Due to e-difficulties, the Clerk/Treasurer presented issue related to the Fire Departments Ladder Truck in place of the Fire Chief.

A motion by Majerle to declare the ladder truck as surplus equipment, request sealed bids through July 31, 2020 to be opened by the August 10, 2020 regular City Council meeting. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.10 Treasurer, Coronavirus Relief Fund Application

An informational report on the Minnesota Department of Revenue allocation of the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) for the City of Tower is \$36,992 and how it can and can not be spent. No action Council action needed at this time.

6.11 Treasurer, AFSCME Union Retiree Sick Leave conversion

A motion by Majerle to approve the disbursement of the remaining sick leave balance of two AFSCME retirees (\$42,255.52) to the Minnesota State Retirement System Post Health Care Savings Plan per the Union contract and the associated transfer of money from sick leave accounts to the General Fund checking spaced over time. Second by Setterberg. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.12 Fire, Firehouse Public Safety Foundation Life Saving Equipment Grant

Chief Olson presented that there is a grant for \$15,500 - \$50,000 that would supply a variety firehouse needs.

A motion by Majerle to apply for this funding. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6.13 American Tower

City Attorney stated that he would get the City an analysis on the American Tower our lease arrangement and proposal analysis within two weeks.

6.14 City Council Meeting, Civic Center

A discussion regarding the difficulties of e-meetings and holding the meeting at the Civic Center. No action taken.

7. Pay the Bills

A motion by Majerle to pay the bills. Second by Shedd. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8. Adjourn

Councilor Setterberg called for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



Victoria Ranua
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by Council on:

September 14, 2020