

City of Tower
Regular Meeting
October 12, 2009
Monday @ 5:30 PM
City Council Chambers

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

Present: Abrahamson, Hanson, Heinowski, Hiltunen, Nevala
Absent: None
Also Present: Kotzian, Lamppa

Visitors: Greg Lenci, Troy Swanson, Christina Hujanen, Joe Russell, Sheriff Kevin Friebe, Matt Bolf, John Jammick, Jodi Summit, Sheldon Majerle, Dale Moore, Jim Toivonen, Dave Broten, Stephanie Gubrud,

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Hanson to approve the minutes of the last meeting. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Nevala to approve the agenda with the following additions: 8.5 Police Contract and 9.5 Blight Committee. All yes. Motion carried.

Monthly reports were received Ambulance Department, Maintenance Department, Blight Officer, and Clerk's Office. An oral report was given by the Sheriff's department. No report from the Fire Department.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Hanson to accept the reports received. All yes. Motion carried.

Councilor Heinowski gave the Airport Commission Report. A committee has been set up to meet with the office staff and go over the airport budget. The commission also discussed the relocation of the pressure tank and maintenance garage.

Bolf gave an update on the road reroute stating that the wetland and topographical surveys have been done.

The Historic Harbor Project update was given by Matt Bolf. He talked about the Lakoskey property purchase, Redevelopment Grant extensions, and MNDot's responsibility issues.

Planning & Zoning no report.
TEDA no report.

Motion by Hanson supported by Nevala to approve Resolution #2009-13: County Revocation to the City a portion of Temporary Truck Highway #1. All yes. Motion carried. All yes. Motion carried.

Campground Manager, Stephanie Gubrud, reported on the successful season at Hoodoo Point and also stressed on the needs for some improvements.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to have Clerk Kotzian work with the Campground Manager to set up a committee to review and prioritize the needs at the campground. All yes. Motion carried.

The Cathcart property was appraised at \$41,500. The Cathcart property and adjacent City property will be discussed at the next Planning and Zoning meeting.

Motion by Nevala supported by Heinowski, contingent upon the approval of the City Attorney to pay more than the appraised value, to approve the purchase of Lakoskey property for \$49,500 including two small parcels of land that abut the Lakoskey property. The two parcels are valued at \$1,680. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Hanson to dismiss the seaplane lawsuit against Mesabi Bituminous as recommended by the City Attorney. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Hanson to approve the Police Contract with St. Louis County, contingent upon the approval from our insurance agent, that the City has coverage to indemnify the county and county employees for intentional acts caused by the county's employee. This coverage must be included in the policy at no additional expense to the City. All yes. Motion carried.

Joe Russell, President of the Wolf Track Classic was present to thank the Council for their past support and to inform them on this year's sled dog race. This year he asked the City to help with garbage cans, traffic cones, barricades and standby from the Tower Ambulance Service.

John Jannick of RLK presented Change Order #1 for the 3rd St. N Project which includes paving an additional 110' of Alder Street for \$6,264 and paving an additional 250' of North 2nd St. Alley for \$5,440.

Motion by Heinowski supported Hanson to approve Change Order #1 at a total cost of \$11,704. All yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Heinowski supported by Nevala to approve Pay Estimate #2 to Jola and Sopp for work completed through October 6, 2009, on the North 3rd Street Project, in the amount of \$132,672.49. All ye. Motion carried.

Mayor Abrahamson volunteered to attend the Local Board of Appeal & Equalization training to be held on November 4, 2009 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Cotton Town Hall.

The Blight Appeal Committee needs a temporary member to hear the Altenburg appeal. Christina Hujanen volunteered for this temporary position.

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

Motion by Nevala supported by Hanson to adjourn. Time: 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lamppa
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer