

City of Tower
Regular Meeting
April 9, 2012
Monday @ 5:30PM
City Council Chambers

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

Present: Abrahamson, Carlson, Dougherty, Hiltunen, and Nevala

Absent: None

Also Present: Lamppa and Keith

Visitors: Steve Altenburg, Sheldon Majerle, Bernie Zollar, Randy Semo, Christina Hujanen, Jodi Summit, Marshal Helmberger, Matt Bolf (SEH), and Kevin Friebe and Shannon Schultz (Saint Louis County Sheriffs Office).

A motion was made by Hiltunen supported by Carlson to approve the minutes of the last meeting. All yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Nevala supported by Dougherty to accept the agenda as stated. All yes. The motion carried.

Public Input: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Keith stated that the City Staff will be utilizing a Cenex credit card at Vermilion Fuel & Food to recognize the federal gas tax savings. Keith also stated that the City has converted to laser form public utility billings resulting in a savings of approximately \$500.00.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Marge Johnson regarding her dissatisfaction with repair work that was done to her septic system by Utility Systems of America. Ms. Johnson's complaints at this time are best rendered to Utility Systems of America and her loan received from the city is due and payable.

Written reports were received from the Maintenance Department, Ambulance Department, Fire Department, Police Department, and Emergency Management Department. Ambulance Director Zollar stated that he has begun process of ordering a new ambulance per the Council's previous direction. Director Zollar also informed the Council that unfortunately Ambulance #2 collided with a deer over the Easter Holiday Weekend and repairs are necessary. The ambulance has been already brought in for repairs and insurance has been notified.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Hiltunen to accept the reports from officers. All yes. Motion carried.

Tower Airport Commission - No commission meeting was held.

A letter was drafted by Matt Bolf (SEH) to MN/DOT Aeronautics requesting additional financial assistance to fund the increased local share burden.

Matt Bolf has prepared for publication a bid notice for the Hoodoo Point road relocation

project.

Harbor Project - The bonding bill has not been finalized and it is unsure if the Tower Harbor Project will be included.

Abrahamson Property - Correspondence has been received from Mark Weir requesting \$300 per month for a perpetual easement for the property. The consensus of the council is to purchase the property outright. Another negotiation will be set with Mr. Weir and the Abrahamsons.

Police Contract - Councilors Carlson and Dougherty met with the Saint Louis County Sheriff's Office. During this meeting it was established that the City was due a refund for improperly coded overtime. The Saint Louis County Sheriff's Office also provided an estimated cost of \$95,000 for 2012.

Public Utility Deposit Policy - In accordance with advice received from the City's Accounting Firm Walker, Giroux, & Hahne, a public utility deposit policy was drafted and submitted to the council for further review. The Council will finalize and approve the policy at the next Council Meeting.

A motion was made by Nevala and supported by Dougherty to post and advertisement in the Timberjay for summer help. All yes. The Motion carried.

TEDA - Members of the TEDA board met with representatives from the Vermilion Country School to review the preliminary cost estimates for renovation of the Powerain Facility. Matt Bolf (SEH) will work with Mike Larsen(SEH) and Dick Grabko(SEH) to begin the process of preparing the final drawings and bid packets.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to send a letter to the Iron Range Resources Rehabilitation Board requesting all funding available for the renovation of the former Powerain Manufacturing facility. All yes. The motion carried.

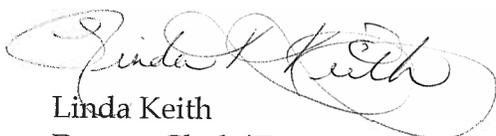
Sand Lake Shuffle - A request was made by the Sand Lake Shuffle to be excluded from paying the standard Civic Center Rental Fee.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Hiltunen to deny the Sand Lake Shuffle's request for free use of the Civic Center. All yes. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to pay the bills. All yes. The motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Nevala and supported by Dougherty. Time 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted



Linda Keith
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer