

City of Tower  
Regular Meeting  
June 11, 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: Ron Abrahamson, Brenda Broten, Nancy Larson, Dan Broten, Sheldon Majerle, Ed Majerle, Jodi Summit, Tom Mesojedec, and, Matt Bolf (SEH).

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

A motion was made by Carlson supported by Hiltunen to accept the agenda as with the following items added to New Business: 1) DEED Resolution Approval and 2) Request to close Norway Street. All yes. The motion carried.

Public Input:

Dan Broten inquired about boathouse cribbing that has surfaced and whether the removal of the cribbing was part of our next phase of harbor plans. Mr. Broten also inquired about the status of additional dredgings of the river. SEH Engineer, Matt Bolf responded that several cribbing removal sessions had been completed but there was always the threat that additional cribbing might surface. Matt stated that he and the Mayor would investigate them during a tour of the river they were taking on June 12, 2012. Matt stated the City of Tower would be applying for additional permits for dredging but that per State Rules no dredging can begin until after July 1, 2012. The Council directed the City Clerk-Treasurer to investigate the possibility of temporarily marking the boat house cribbing and a rock hazard that had been reported.

Tom Mesojedec spoke about the Vehicle Noise Enforcement Signs he had requested at a previous meeting. The council tabled the purchase of signs and plans to review the issue during 2013 Budget Planning. At this time the Council feels that Vehicle Noise Laws are not easily enforced and that Mr. Mesojedec would be better served by having the City Clerk-Treasurer draft a cordial request to KGM Contractors asking for their cooperation in limiting the amount of braking noise the trucks are making.

Correspondence: None

Written reports were received from the Maintenance Department, Ambulance Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Ambulance Director, and Emergency Management Department.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Nevala to accept the reports

from officers. All yes. Motion carried.

Tower Airport Commission – A meeting was held with SEH regarding the runway rehabilitation project that will begin in late Summer 2012. The City will have no local match responsibility. However, any additional costs associated with repairing the drainage system the City's local match responsibility will be 10%. The city's local match was roughly estimated at \$8500.00.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Short, Elliott, and Hendrickson (SEH) for the completion of the runway rehabilitation project. The motion carried unanimously.

Harbor Project – The final layer of pavement has been completed and final line striping will be completed by June 15, 2012.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to approve a resolution drafted to allow the City Staff and SEH Staff to apply for Bonding Bill / Department of Employment and Economic Development Funding. The motion carried unanimously.

Planning and Zoning - No Meeting was held.

TEDA – The TEDA Board held their regularly scheduled meeting. Details of the lease agreement and funding sources continue to be worked out at this time.

Soudan Bleachers – The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee would like to request permission to bring the Soudan Ball Field Bleachers to Tower for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. The council has directed the City Clerk-Treasurer to inquire with our insurance agent regarding any liability issues that may arise from having the bleachers utilized for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

Abrahamson Land/Lift Station Property – At this time Mr. Griffin is appealing the trial court's decision. Mr. Abrahamson requested that negotiations to purchase the property continue even though the appellate court has not rendered their final decision. A meeting of the committee will be set to work with Mr. Abrahamson to secure the property.

Energy Efficiency Improvements at the Depot – The work on the Solar Project will start within the next few days and will likely continue after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. The City can expect grant rebates to total as much as \$20,000.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to start the energy improvements and submit all appropriate grant applications. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson to enter into a contract with Minnesota Power allowing them to purchase electricity generated from the 8KW Solar System soon to be installed at the Depot. The motion carried unanimously.

A request was received from D'Ericks for use of the city garage area for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

A motion was made by Nevala and supported by Carlson to approve the request. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to approve the Vermilion Country School's request to start the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 10K run at the TEDA / Powerain Building. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Nevala and supported by Carlson to advertise for election judges with a starting pay of \$10/hr. The motion carried unanimously.

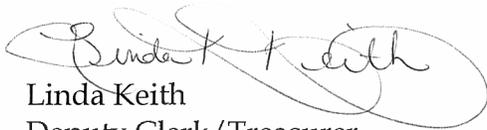
A motion was made Carlson and supported by Dougherty to post overtime shifts for 2 officers each on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4<sup>th</sup>. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson to approve the closure of Norway Street surrounding the Episcopalian Church on Saturday, June 16, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Carlson and supported by Nevala. Time 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted



Linda Keith  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer