

City of Tower  
Regular Meeting  
March 12, 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: Rick Worringer, Tom Mesojedec, Jim Macomber, Christina Hujanen, Jodi Summit, Matt Bolf (SEH), and Kevin Friebe (Saint Louis County Sheriffs Office).

Motion by Hiltunen supported by Dougherty to approve the minutes of the last meeting. All yes. The motion carried.

Motion by Nevala supported by Hiltunen to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of approving the new TEDA Board Member. All yes. The motion carried.

Public Input: Tom Mesojedec requested that a turn out lane from highway 169 into the entrance to the Marjo Motel. Mr. Mesojedec also noted concerns regarding vehicle noise coming from loud motorcycles and "Jake" Breaking.

Correspondence: None.

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

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

Tower Airport Commission - A recommendation was made by the Tower Airport commission that all four hangars stay as commercial hangars and be billed as such.

Matt Bolf advised that the new local share for the road relocation project is now 10% and only 90% being funded by the FAA and MN/DOT. Approximately \$30,000.00 will be new the local match amount. Clerk/Treasurer Lamppa will partner with SEH to research additional funding assistance to cover the increased local share. The airport road relocation project will need to be advertised for bids by April 1, 2012.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to authorize SEH to advertise for contractor bids to relocate the road.

Harbor Project – Letters have been prepared for requesting the release of the Powerain Building Lien and requesting an infrastructure grant.

Mayor Abrahamson, Matt Bolf(SEH), and Mike Larson(SEH) made a presentation regarding the Harbor Project to the house of representatives bonding bill committee. The Harbor Project was put on a list of items for possible funding in 2012.

KGM invoice – A revised invoice has been received from KGM for charges incurred during the state shutdown. The invoice that was submitted was approximately half of the cost previously submitted. Matt Bolf and MN/DOT representatives are reviewing the revised invoice.

Planning Zoning - No meeting was held.

TEDA – TEDA has elected to stay as an active commission and will continue to evaluate their status periodically. President Sorensen has drafted a letter to the IRRRB to have the Powerain Building gifted to the City without surrendering the certificate of deposit that was previously pledged. This is the first step in the process of taking ownership of the Powerain Building.

National Historic Register- Depot - The Historical Society would like to request that we put the Depot on the National Historic Register.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Nevala to proceed with the second step of the process required should the council decide to place the Tower Depot on the Historical Register. All yes. The motion carried.

Neil Amos Hangar Issue – A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson to keep all commercial hangars rates as is and to bill accordingly. All yes. The motion carried.

Abrahamson Property – A meeting will be called with the Abrahamsons, their legal counsel, and Councilor Carlson to review the cities options to find a more permanent solution with the Abrahamsons that allows the City of Tower continued use of the land for the City pumping station and sewer lines. The Council has tabled their decision pending Counselor Carlson's review.

Hangar Lease Agreement – The Tower Airport Commission submitted for Council approval updated Commercial and Non-Commercial Hangar Leases.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to accept the hangar lease agreements with the following changes:

- 1) Lot Size shall be a maximum of 90 feet deep.
- 2) Temporary Lodging facilities are defined as facilities not to be used for permanent residences but rather short stays and pilot rest.
- 3) Hangar owners will have thirty (30) days to vacate their hangar and remove

all property upon termination of their lease.

All yes. The motion carried. A full true and correct copy is on file with the City Clerk/Treasurer.

Parade Route - A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson to have the Tower Fourth of July Parade traveling down the main street from the west end flowing in an easterly direction. All yes. The motion carried.

Potter's Field - A request for financial support from the Tower Soudan Historical Society will be tabled until later in 2012.

Board of Equalization - Lance Dougherty and Josh Carlson will be attending the training provided by Saint Louis County.

GASB 54 Fund policy - As required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the City of Tower must adopt a Fund Balance Policy which classifies fund balances into one of five classifications.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Nevala to approve the GASB 54 Fund Balance Policy as prepared. All yes. The motion carried. A true and correct copy is on file with the City Clerk/Treasurer.

Minnesota Water/Wastewater Agency Responses Network - A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to join the network of communities joining forces to prepare for water and/or wastewater utility emergencies/disasters. All yes. The motion carried.

Copier - Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Keith submitted a proposal to the Council to replace all current office print machines and to accept a lease for a multi-function unit from Metro Sales in Hibbing, Minnesota. There would be a small savings with the lease as compared to the 2011 actual costs.

A motion was made Dougherty and supported by Carlson to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to accept Metro Sales lease agreement. All yes. The motion carried.

Gas Card - Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Keith submitted a proposal to the Council to secure a BP gas only credit card to be held at Bob's Amoco for the use of all city vehicles and gas powered equipment. Utilizing the gas credit card will save the city around twenty cents (\$.20) per gallon on both gasoline and diesel fuels.

A motion was made by Nevala and supported by Carlson to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer to secure a gas credit card to be used for all city vehicles. All yes. The motion carried.

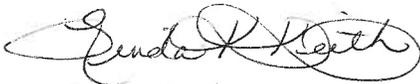
A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Nevala to transfer \$6,589.34 from the general fund to seaplane base construction account for final close out of the account. All yes. The motion Carried.

New TEDA Board Member – A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson to approve TEDA’s recommendation to accept Christina Hujanen’s as the newest TEDA Board Member with a term expiring in 2017. 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 7:35PM

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Keith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Linda Keith  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer