

City of Tower  
Regular Meeting  
October 8, 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, and Hiltunen.

Absent: Councilor Nevala

Also Present: Lamppa and Keith

Visitors: Richard Hanson, Roger Anderson, Matt Tuchel, Gary Ross, Charity Ross, Ann Flanagan, Randy Semo, Christina Hujanen, Matt Bolf (SEH Engineering), Ed Majerle, Erik Thorp, Jodi Summit, and Steve Altenburg.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to approve the minutes of the last meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of item 9.1A Approving IRRRB Funding, 9.13 Ambulance UTV Trailer, and 9.14 New Ambulance Radios. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Input: None.

Correspondence: A letter from Bernie Sarkela was received and no action was taken at this time. A letter was also received from Jamie Trapp regarding zoning issues near the marina property. In order for Mr. Ross to complete his plans a zoning change would need to be made. Mayor Abrahamson has provided the land owners documentation on making a zoning change and plans to meet with the landowners during the next coming weeks to further discuss the issue.

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 approve the reports from officers. The motion carried unanimously.

Tower Airport Commission – KGM Contractors are working on both the Runway Rehabilitation and Road Relocation projects. Both projects are expected to be completed by October 20, 2012.

Harbor Project – The striping project near the rock cut is still on the punch list and has been slated to be completion on October 24, 2012. Matt Bolf will be meeting with KGM to review and finalize all open items. Mayor Abrahamson requested that Matt Bolf verify where rumble striping will be placed and to request that it not be added to the westbound traffic lane before the rock cut area.

Planning and Zoning no meeting.

TEDA Board – The TEDA Board met on October 1, 2012 and voted unanimously to request that the City Council authorize the TEDA Board to make all appropriate financing arrangements necessary to complete the renovations for the charter school.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson to authorize approve the TEDA Board's request to secure financing for the Charter School renovations. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Hiltunen to approve the Depot Lease as submitted by the Tower Soudan Historical Society. The motion carried unanimously. A copy of the lease is on file with the City Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to order a 2013 GMC Savanna Ambulance Commercial Cutaway with Quigley Motor Company 4WD System at a cost of \$49,059.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to approve and enter into a police contract with Breitung Township pending the approval of the contract by City Attorney, Andy Peterson. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported Dougherty to take a public vote for the name of the mini park from the following three choices:

- A) Harbor Park
- B) Riverview Park
- C) Golden Eagle Park

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to terminate effective January 1, 2013 the contract with ServiceMaster Corporation for cleaning of City Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson to terminate our City Engineering contract with JPJ Engineering. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to authorize SEH to submit grant proposals and/or funding applications to the IRRRB on behalf of the City of Tower for the main street sewer reconstruction project. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to authorize city staff to work with Frandsen Bank to offer voluntary auto fund withdrawal for public utility payments. The motion carried with Councilor Carlson, Councilor Dougherty, and Mayor Abrahamson assenting and Councilor Hiltunen dissenting.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to accept an application from Erik Thorp to join the Tower Area Ambulance Service. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to authorize Ambulance Supervisor Tuchel to coordinate an EMT Training Class for January 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Dougherty to replace Councilor Nevala as acting Mayor with Councilor Hiltunen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Carlson authorizing the City Staff to cancel their Veteran's Day Holiday scheduled for November 12, 2012 and take the holiday pay on a day of their choice. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Josh Carlson was appointed to the Insurance Renewal Committee.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen in an effort to prevent damage from Hydrant Flushing the City Maintenance Staff will inspect or repair the stand pipe and shut off valve and also approve \$500.00 in expenditures to install a back flow preventer and expansion tank at the home located at 5582 Pine Street. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson approving the request from the fire department to allocate all proceeds received for Tower Firefighters working fire patrol for the Department of Natural Resources to an account to be used solely for fire department expenditures and at no time returned to the general fund. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to authorize the fire department to purchase a brush truck from the Department of Natural Resources in the spring of 2013 so long as the cost does not exceed \$10,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Hiltunen to authorize Ambulance Supervisor Tichel to purchase a trailer to be utilized to haul the ambulance UTV. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to authorize Ambulance Supervisor Tichel to work with DSC Communications to have the new Saint Louis County required 800 MHZ Radios installed in the ambulances. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Carlson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Time out 6:47PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Linda K Keith  
Deputy Clerk - Treasurer