

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – October 6, 2020

The Foley City Council held a regular meeting on October 6, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Foley City Hall.

Members Present: Mayor Gerard Bettendorf, Councilmembers Jeff Gondeck, Rosalie Musachio, Gary Swanson and Jack Brosh.

Members Absent: None

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Brosh, seconded by Swanson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, unanimous.

**Consent Agenda**

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to approve the consent agenda, which includes the following:

- Approve minutes of September 1, 2020.
- Approve minutes of September 17, 2020.
- Adopt Resolution #2020-23 Accepting Donation.
- Adopt Resolution #2020-24 Accepting Donation.
- Approve hiring of Bryan Moshier for Public Works Operator position.
- Approve closure of City Hall Front Counter on November 3, 2020.
- Approve payment of bills.

Motion carried, unanimous.

**Public Hearing – Water/Sewer Delinquent Accounts & I/I Penalty Charges**

At 5:31 p.m. Mayor Bettendorf opened the Public Hearing regarding delinquent water/sewer accounts and I/I penalty charges.

Jerome Keller, 340 7 ½ Avenue, addressed the council asking for his bill to be adjusted due to the water leak that caused two of his quarterly bills in 2019 to be significantly higher than expected. Keller expressed his frustration and claimed that he did not use the water that the meter said he used. Discussion followed with Mark Pappenfus Director of Public Works providing more information regarding Keller's complaint, when it was brought to staff's attention, and what was done to investigate. Pappenfus told the council it was determined that Keller's water softener was the source of the leak. Keller rejected the explanation from Public Works. Sarah Brunn City Administrator joined the discussion stating that Keller had not made any payments to his water bill since October of last year. Discussion followed with several councilmembers commenting and asking questions. Pappenfus stated the meter was not misread.

At 5:48 p.m. Mayor Bettendorf reconvened the regular meeting. A motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Musachio, to approve Resolution #2020-26 Assessing I/I Penalties and Resolution #2020-27 Assessing Water/Sewer Delinquent Charges. Motion carried, unanimous.

## **Mayor's Comments & Open Forum**

No one spoke.

## **Department Reports**

Police Chief Katie McMillin gave an overview of the calls for service in September. There were a total of 297 calls. McMillin said she had received an increased number of requests for record checks for permit to carries for other agencies. Reporting of suspicious activity from residents was also up. Thefts had also seen an increase. McMillin also informed the council that due to COVID restrictions she would not be doing Halloween safety presentations in the schools. Instead she would record video presentations that would be posted on social media for the kids to watch.

Mark Pappenfus Director of Public Works gave an overview of several projects, including the solar bees repaired at the wastewater ponds, fire hydrant painting, and water tower maintenance. Pappenfus informed the council the water tower would need a full refurbish in 2-3 years. Discussion followed on other Public Works issues.

Pappenfus also gave an update on a few Fire Department items. One of the department's tanker trunks experienced transmission trouble returning from a call and had to be towed. The new rescue truck has arrived and will be in service once the department completes necessary training. Fire safety usually presented in the schools this time of year for Fire Prevention Week will be done outside.

Pappenfus asked the council for direction on moving forward with pool coping. Two bids had been received. The work would be completed in the spring prior to the pool opening.

Motion by Musachio, Swanson seconded, to accept the recommended bid and proceed with the project. Motion carried, unanimous.

Pappenfus also presented a bid for a new playground structure to be installed in the spring. The exact location for the new structure would be determined later. The bid included supervised installation.

Motion made by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to accept the bid for the playground structure. Motion carried, unanimous.

Sarah Brunn gave an overview of her administrative report. She asked the council for direction on possibly opening up the council chamber for outside groups to use for meetings. The council room has not been used outside of city business due to cleaning concerns and COVID restrictions. After several minutes of discussion, Mayor Bettendorf and the council instructed staff to allow some essential groups (e.g. Foley Chamber, Alcoholics Anonymous, Official City Boards, Driver Examiner...etc...) to use the meeting space as long as they cleaned the room after use or paid to have the room cleaned.

Brunn gave an update to the council regarding CARES funding including extra radio purchases. McMillin shared with the council that Foley PD had applied for and received a \$4,000 FEMA grant to help pay for COVID cleaning expenses and PPE. Discussion followed. Musachio asked staff to investigate the possibility of purchasing room purifiers.

Brunn also reminded the council that the November meeting would be moved to Nov. 10 due to Election Day. Brunn also shared that she had a meeting regarding lighting for Hwy 23. MN DOT will

proceed with standard lighting designs, but will give the city options for banner and holiday decorations.

### **Old Business**

Gondeck gave a brief update on the Parking & Storage Ordinance. The Planning Commission reviewed the ordinance and did not recommend additional changes, but said residents could continue to address concerns with the Commission or apply for a variance. One letter had been received from a resident prior to the Planning Commission's meeting. No residents attended the Planning meeting to express concerns. Discussion followed. McMillin said all previous complaints regarding the ordinance had been resolved.

Brunn gave an update on the Orderly Annexation/Joint Planning Agreement. Gilmanton Township has tabled the wastewater project is completed. Brunn gave an overview of the city's options and encouraged the council to read in more detail.

Brunn gave an update on the wastewater project. She told the council she had met earlier with Bolton and Menk who recommended moving forward with design to meet necessary deadlines. Discussion followed.

### **New Business**

No new business.

### **Discussion on Purchase of PID 020049300 & PID 020050000**

Mayor Bettendorf closed the regular meeting at 6:43 p.m. for discussion on potential land price per Minn. Stat. 13D.05 Subd. 3(c) 13D.05.

Mayor Bettendorf reopened the regular meeting at 6:56 p.m. Staff was advised to continue the conversations with the landowner.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to adjourn. Motion carried, unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.



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Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator