

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – November 10, 2020

The Foley City Council held a regular meeting on November 10, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Foley City Hall.

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

Members Absent: Jack Brosh

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, unanimous.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve minutes of October 6, 2020.
- Adopt Resolution #2020-28 Accepting Donation.
- Accept resignation of Mike Barros, part-time police officer.
- Adopt Resolution #2020-29 Approving Spending of CARES Funds.
- Accept high bid of \$4,000 for sale of Fire Rescue Truck.
- Approve police department policy updates.
- Authorize hiring process for part-time police officer eligibility list.
- Accept resignation of firefighter, Jerrik Manthie.
- Adopt Resolution #2020-33 Accepting Donation.
- Approve payment of bills.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Public Hearing – Weed and Snow Charges

The regular council meeting was recessed at 5:32 p.m. for a public hearing on weed and snow assessments. There was no discussion and no one spoke. The regular council meeting was reconvened at 5:34 p.m.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Swanson, to adopt Resolution #2020-30 Assessing Snow & Weed Charges. Motion carried, unanimous.

Foley Wastewater Expansion Project – Jared Voge, Bolton & Menk

Jared Voge of Bolton & Menk congratulated the council and city staff for successfully lobbying inclusion of the wastewater project in the state bonding bill. Voge also asked the council to adopt Resolution #2020-31 Applying for Grant from Minnesota Public Facilities Authority in order to continue to move the wastewater project forward.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to adopt Resolution #2020-31. Motion carried, unanimous.

Voge gave the council a brief overview of next steps of the wastewater project. The plan and specifications must be submitted to the MPCA for approval. The plan will include preliminary design with topography information of the route and the permits and easements needed. The route will be refined to make sure it's viable from a maintenance standpoint. Voge expects a couple of easements will be needed. The goal is to keep public right-of-way as much as possible. After the final route is determined, the project will move into final design and will be submitted to the MPCA for review. Voge expects preliminary design will be ready in February of 2021 with final design in late spring. Construction is expected to begin in summer or fall of 2021 ending in 2022. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Swanson, to adopt Resolution #2020-32 Ordering Wastewater Design & Prep of Plans. Motion carried, unanimous.

City Administrator Sarah Brunn gave an update on the fiber project. The project is moving forward. The city now has several partners including the school, the county, and a fiber provider. It will cost \$150,000 to run the conduit with the wastewater pipe which is a significant cost savings instead of doing the project separately. Brunn reminded the council of the importance of the project given the current state of emergency and the increased needs for reliable internet from the school and teleworking. It is an easy accommodation to include with the wastewater project. Discussion includes running the fiber to the other side of Foley to help with connectivity issues outside of town as a second phase to the project.

Mayor's Comments & Open Forum

No one spoke.

Department Reports

Chief Katie McMillin gave her report for the police department. Foley PD saw 274 calls during the month of October. No domestic or assault calls for the month. McMillin informed the council she will start the hiring process approved for a part-time officer. The posting will appear next week. She will score the applicants and plan for interviews some time in December. McMillin also asked for council approval for the purchase of a new squad car using funds with next year's budget. Two bids were presented.

Swanson expressed concerns regarding maintenance schedules for the squad cars. McMillin assured the council the squad cars are checked weekly and they've made some adjustments to procedures to keep the squads maintained.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to accept the bid from Murphy Chevrolet for \$45,506.12 for the new squad car. Motion carried, unanimous.

McMillin said she would order the car next week.

Mark Pappenfus gave an update on Public Works and Fire Department. Public Works is now at full staff and they are ready for winter. Pappenfus told the council to expect a quote for new vac truck at next month's meeting. The new truck is part of this year's capital replacement. He will send more

information to the council soon. This will be a sewer fund expense. Pappenfus also gave a quick overview of the fire department. The new rescue truck is in service. The sale of the old truck is moving forward for \$4,000. Pappenfus said he also in the process of ordering new air packs for the trucks.

City Administrator Sarah Brunn gave the council an update on the Highway 23 project. The county has asked the council if they want to donate or sell the property at the corner of Penn and Hwy 23 which is needed for the project. The current value is \$18,000. Money from the sale could be used to help offset the costs on other areas of the project. Discussion and questions followed. The council expressed interest in selling the land. Brunn with continue discussion with the state.

Brunn also updated the council on the lighting for the project. The standard lighting will cost the city \$157,000. Decorative lighting for electric displays and banners will cost \$319,000. Brunn asked the council for direction on which they prefer. Discussion and questions followed. Council decided to table the decision until next meeting.

Brunn gave an overview on the election. Everything went very well. Judges were very busy and all did a great job.

Brunn also informed the council she will be getting proposals for a new compensation plan in the next few months. She also reminded the council that Dec. 1 is the truth in taxation meeting. Notices will be going out soon. The council will need to certify the final budget. She also told the council if they get questions and need assistance to please reach out to her. Brunn also updated the council that they are looking at the city's COVID-19 policy and staffing levels. The goal is make sure staff is safe while still providing basic services. Staff is not recommending expanding meeting room access at this time. More cities are pulling back. Staff will work with the mayor if an immediate need arises.

Old Business

Update Orderly Annexation and Joint Planning Agreement – Gilmanton Township Representative Scott Baron

Brunn reminded the council she provided information from the Minnesota League of Cities at the last meeting that outlined what the city's options were if an agreement with the township could not be reached.

Scott Baron from Gilmanton Township addressed the council and explained the board tabled the agreement until the city had a better idea of when the project might start. Baron also said the board was waiting on more feedback from residents before making a decision. Discussion and questions followed. Pappenfus and Brunn both expressed concern that waiting for the agreement the city could lose potential growth. Brunn expressed the city wanted to work with Gilmanton with the agreement in place. The council would need to look at other options if the agreement is not in place because the city has a lot to lose. Baron said the board is getting pushback from land owners and would be discussing tonight at their meeting.

New Business

No new business.

The mayor recessed the regular council meeting at 6:25 p.m. to reconvene on Friday, Nov. 13 at 12 p.m. for canvassing city election results.

Mayor Bettendorf reconvened the city council meeting on Nov. 13, 2020, at 12 p.m. to canvass election results.

Members Present: Gerard Bettendorf, Jeff Gondeck, Rosalie Musachio

Members Absent: Gary Swanson, Jack Brosh

The oath of office was signed by all members of canvassing board.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to adopt Resolution #2020-34 Canvass Election Results – motion carried.

Motion by Gondeck seconded by Musachio to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.



Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator