Minutes for a Regular Meeting of the

Lamberton City Council

August 13, 2018 – 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Mayor T. Neperman, L. Sik, D. Knutson, L. Bittner, D. Irlbeck

Others in Attendance: Clerk M. Peterson, J. Thram, N. Hacker, N. Anderson, Tom Neperman, M. Hesse, A. Vogel, D. Vollmer. Also present: Chris Larson and Andy Boyle, ISG.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) Bittner moved, Knutson seconded for unanimous approval of July 9, 2018 City Council Minutes.

B) Irlbeck moved, Bittner seconded for unanimous approval of July 9, 2018 EDA Minutes.

C) Sik moved, Irlbeck seconded for unanimous approval of July 12, 2018 Library Board Minutes.

III. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

A) Sik moved, Bittner seconded for unanimous approval of checks #43264-#43321, #76E-#98E, and #500100-#500167 in the amount of $116,005.71.

IV. REPORTS

A) Irlbeck moved, Knutson seconded for unanimous approval of the Maintenance Department report as discussed by Thram. Activities include:

-The new skid loader should arrive soon.

-The pool heater has arrived but will not be installed before pool closes for the season. Bittner added there has been nice weather and the water has been 78 degrees.

-Winter preparation will begin over the next couple of months. Hydrants will be flushed during preparation.

B) Knutson moved, Sik seconded for unanimous approval of the Ambulance Department report as presented by Anderson. Activities include:

-Activity summary for July was noted.

-Air Care training will be conducted soon.

-Review of payroll activity for July

-Vollmer reported on the recent meeting with Mayo regarding Springfield and Lamberton Clinics. The plan is not final; however, the Springfield Hospital is what is anticipated to close but the Springfield Clinic and Emergency Room and the Lamberton Clinic will remain open and staffed with nurse practitioners with similar times and days. Mayo hinted the final decisions will be made in the next couple of weeks. The ambulance should not be affected because they transport to the nearest emergency room.

C) Irlbeck moved, Sik seconded for unanimous approval of the Police Department report as presented by Hacker. Activities include:

-Review of July activity report.

-The new mobile laptop is here. Installation to the squad car will be done in the next week.

-Offered to reach out to other communities should the council wish to explore the possibility of joining forces with Walnut Grove Police Department.

-The water pump failed in the squad. The repair bill was $1,929.71.

-Police training reimbursement was received in the amount of $1,914.01.

-Reviewed activity of public relations, budget calculations and job description updates. Noted the police are not compensated for being on-call and asked for consideration of paid on-call or salary if council is going to limit overtime.

-Police telephone lines were discussed after a complaint had been received about the police not answering the two phone lines.

-Accountability of police was discussed. Council stressed the need for log activity and schedules.

-Discussion was held regarding vacation time request from Chief Hacker. Chief Hacker was asked if vacation time was negotiated upon hire differently than that of the personnel policy to which he stated no. The confusion occurs with how it is interpreted. The attorney opinion stated it is important to apply the personnel policy as that has been consistent with the manner of all previous employees and that any question would be expected an answer at the time of hire.

D) Knutson moved, Bittner seconded for unanimous approval of the Administration Department report as discussed by Peterson.

-The month of July was spent on election administration and training, budget preparation including budget instruction to all departments and council, and compensation study.

-Peterson informed the council of the continued lack of communication with the police department. Mayor Neperman will call Chief Hacker regarding this.

E) Bittner moved, Irlbeck seconded for unanimous approval of the EDA report as presented by Vollmer.

-The new and improved city website is up and running at www.lambertonmn.com. Pages will continually be edited. Residents can now pay their utility bill or other miscellaneous payments on the website. You can subscribe to the site to receive alerts being posted also.

-Lease agreements have been renewed for the land.

-Attended a couple meetings to gain knowledge on area networking and contacts for resources necessary to economic development.

V. PETITIONS, REQUESTS & COMMUNICATIONS

A) Irlbeck moved, seconded by Bittner for unanimous approval of a zoning permit for Steve & Deb Lingle to erect a shed and a fence on property they own on Juniper Street.

B) Knutson moved, seconded by Irlbeck for unanimous approval of a zoning permit for Lynn & Pat Story to erect a retaining wall along the southside of their property at 511 S. Main St. It was noted Mr. Story was informed the location is in a utility right-of-way and if future access to the right-of-way was required, he would be responsible to re-erect the wall should anything happen to it.

C) Request for membership to RADC-Redwood Area Development Corporation died for lack of a motion.

D) Request for membership to Southwest Initiative Foundation died for lack of a motion.

E) Sik moved, seconded by Knutson for unanimous approval to host a fall clean up day. It was noted roll-offs would be rented and junk will need to be brought to a designated location. Thram and Peterson will work on the details.

F) Request for reimbursement of the flood destroyed porta potties (rented for Kuhar Park) owned by Southwest Sanitation died for a lack of a motion. The city did not neglect, vandalize or destroy the porta potties. A flood is an uncontrollable force of nature.

G) Knutson moved, Irlbeck seconded for unanimous approval of the August 2018 Financial Report. There were no transfers and one new vendor. Donations were accepted totaling $4,370.79. A full report is available upon request.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

A) Bittner moved, seconded by Sik for unanimous approval of Resolution 2018-14 Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A) Knutson moved, seconded by Irlbeck for unanimous approval to comply with the MN Pay Equity System notice of non-compliance by adjusting the Librarian wage to Grade 7 starting wage. The non-compliance notice specified the female job class of Librarian is at a disadvantage because this position has more job points than the male class of Maintenance Worker yet receives less compensation. When asked how we can stay in compliance, Peterson suggested a pay scale be implemented.

B) Departments presented their budget requests to council. Neperman called for a special meeting for budget planning on August 30, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at city hall.

C) Thram presented the RFP proposals received for the Wellhead Protection Plan. Chris Larson and Andy Boyle, ISG, Mankato, were in attendance for any questions on their submitted proposal. Knutson moved, seconded by Irlbeck to hire ISG as the consulting firm for completion of the second part of the Wellhead Protection Plan in the amount of $12,000.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

A) Discussion was held on the need to update the Personnel Policy, job descriptions and wage compensation. Peterson said each part of this is what she refers to as the compensation study that she has diligently been working on.

B) Colby Davis addressed the council regarding combining police force with Walnut Grove, MN. He arrived after attending the Walnut Grove council meeting to report Walnut Grove is interested in talking to the City of Lamberton about this. Mayor Neperman will reach out to Walnut Grove Mayor Greg Hansen to start gathering information.

C) Officer Davis was enlightened of police accountability discussions that occurred earlier in the meeting. The implementation of schedules and a log seem to be the easy solution.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, Sik moved, seconded by Knutson for unanimous approval to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Approved,

Madonna Peterson, Clerk Terry Neperman, Mayor

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