

## **Fertile City Council Minutes April 13, 2015**

The Fertile City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Brian Nephew and Council members Tanner Lehmann, Todd Wise and Dennis Hasler. Also present were Administrator Lisa Liden, Public Works Director Kevin Nephew, Fair Meadow Administrator Barry Robertson and Assistant Administrator Angela Leiting, Sarah Reese, Elizabeth Valdez, and Twylla Altepeter.

The first item addressed was the consent agenda which included the Minutes of the March 9, 2015 meeting, a street dance request by The Other Place for June 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Fire Department's annual request for approval of gaming permits. The consent agenda was approved on a motion by Council member Wise that was seconded by Council member Lehmann and carried.

Barry Robertson then gave his report to the Council. He reported that month of March had began with 43 residents and ended with 41, operating at a capacity of 86.58%. Four days of adult day care had been provided and 135 home delivered meals had been served.

Robertson then reported to the Council that the Fair Meadow Board had approved advertising for bids to sell three lots that Fair Meadow own behind their garage. He explained that they would like for the three highest bidders to be allowed to orally raise their bids at the opening. This was followed by a discussion on whether the bids would be opened at the May Council meeting and whether the Council had the final decision on whether or not to approve the highest bid.

Council member Wise then made the motion to advertise the lots for sale on bids and to have the bid opening at the May meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

Angela Leiting reported to the Council regarding the status of the capital project that was being proposed at the Nursing Home. EAPC was putting together further estimates on the project and the first phase involved the structural changes to the bathrooms as well as the meeting areas. The second phase would involve the replacement of flooring, wall coverings, and lighting. Leiting reported that the total project cost had about doubled with the addition of flooring and wall coverings throughout the facility. She ended by reporting that they would be receiving the final cost estimates soon.

Barry Robertson reported on the status of the financing for the project. Ehlers had submitted a bond proposal but the interest was so low at the beginning of the project that the project wouldn't cash flow. He reminded those present that the State formula would include the interest cost for the first year of financing and the only way the project would cash flow into the future is if the first year interest were 4% to 5%. Robertson would continue to work on the financing for the project to see what other options were available.

Kevin Nephew, Director of Public Works, then appeared before the Council. Nephew reported that he had gotten a rough estimate on replacing the diesel tank by the shop. The cost of a 500 gallon tank with a pump would be roughly \$2,000. The gas tank would be removed and not

replaced. Nephew also reported that he was exploring the purchase of new dissolved oxygen and ph meter since he currently has to borrow one from the watershed. He stated that he wasn't ready to make a decision on the purchase at this time since he would like to try one out to see if it was user friendly.

Nephew ended by reporting that he was working on getting estimates for replacing the street lights on Mill Street with LED lights. The replacement would be eligible for rebates of about \$120 per light from Otter Tail and the savings on electric cost would be about \$50 per year. This was followed by a discussion of the integrity of the poles themselves and Nephew reminded the Council that they had been strengthened a few years back by welding metal plates to the weak areas.

The next item addressed were the gravel bids that had been submitted. Christian Excavating had not submitted a written bid but had bid orally a price of \$8.97 per ton. Lindberg Enterprise's bid was at \$8.20 per ton and D & R Gravel's bid was for \$8.50 per ton.

Council member Hasler made the motion to approve the low bid submitted by Lindberg Enterprise. The motion was seconded by Council member Lehmann and was carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Bills were then presented by Administrator Liden. After a brief overview of the receipts, disbursements and financial reports for the month of March, Council member Lehmann made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Council member Wise and was carried.

The next item up for discussion was the 2 a.m. closing license that Elizabeth Valdez had requested for Side Street Bar & Grill. Ms. Valdez was present to make the request and stated that she wants her business to succeed and that staying open an extra hour on occasion gave her another avenue for increasing her revenues. Valdez stated that she didn't plan on staying open that extra hour every night and would most likely only stay open until two on the nights that she had entertainment. When asked by Mayor Nephew how often this would be, Valdez stated that she only has entertainment twice per month.

Council member Hasler then commented that he would like to see a motion made on granting the license and then if it, again, died for lack of a second that he would like the matter closed for the year.

Ms. Valdez then asked whether it would help if she were to submit a signed petition from her customers requesting that the license be granted. This was followed by a discussion on how to best determine the general public's opinion on the matter. Those present felt a petition signed by Side Street patrons wouldn't be representative of the entire public's view on the matter.

After further discussion it was decided that Administrator Liden would work with Twylla Altepeter and Elizabeth Valdez on the wording for an informal survey to be run in the Fertile Journal. Council member Wise then made the motion to table the matter of the license until the May meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

After a brief discussion, Council member Wise made a motion to approve the Assisted Living Capital Lease and Ground Lease. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

Three items in regard to the Car Show were discussed next. Administrator Liden explained that with so many of the car show activities taking place on City property it would be best for the City to be officially involved in organizing the event. Liden explained that she had attended and would continue to attend all Car Show Committee meetings to see that the City's best interests are provided for.

The next item that Liden discussed was in regard to insurance for the various activities that day. All activities would be covered under the City's insurance through the League except for the activities with the monster truck, since those types of activities are specifically excluded by the League. A special event insurance policy would be required to cover the monster truck activities and the cost of the policy would be \$400 plus and additional \$75 for each additional insured party over three.

The final car show item that Liden brought before the Council was the use of Cannon Park and the City parking lot behind Encore for some of the day's events. Liden explained that the monster truck car crushing would take place in Cannon Park and that food vendors would be setting up in the parking lot.

After some discussion of the matter, Council member Hasler made the motion for the City to be an official co-sponsor of the event, for the City to pay for a special events insurance policy and to give permission for the use of Cannon Park and the City parking lot. The motion was seconded by Council member Lehmann and was carried.

The final agenda item that was addressed was Resolution #4-1-15 Authorization to Execute MNDOT Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement. This resolution states that the City accepts the grant agreement for the funding on the airport grading and drainage project.

A motion was made by Council member Wise to approve Resolution #4-1-15. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Brian Nephew, Mayor

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Lisa J. Liden, City Administrator