

Fertile City Council Minutes May 11, 2015

The Fertile City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Brian Nephew and Council members Tanner Lehmann, Linda Widrig, Todd Wise and Dennis Hasler. Also present were Public Works Director Kevin Nephew, Luke Evenson from Eide Bailly, Brian Grunhovd, and Twylla Altepeter.

The first item addressed on the agenda was the audit report for 2015. Luke Evenson from Eide Bailly went over the Executive Summary and also asked the Council to look at Eide Bailly's fee proposal for the next three years. Mayor Nephew asked about combining the audits for the City and the Nursing Home in the interest of saving money.

Kevin Nephew then gave his report on Public Works. Nephew reported that he had gotten an estimate on paving to repair some areas that had been dug up due to water main breaks. The estimate also included filling some cross cracks on Stephen Drive, Elm Street, and Ash Street as well as two areas by the school that would get a two inch overlay. After discussion of the work to be done, Council member Lehmann made the motion to approve the bid submitted by ReitRock Paving. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

The next item discussed was the replacement of the 50 street lights on Mill Street with LED lights. Downs and Nowacki had submitted an estimate of \$32,850 to replace the lights and had determined that the fixtures would save about \$45 per year per fixture. The lighting would also be eligible for an Otter Tail rebate of around \$90 per fixture.

After discussion of the matter, Council member Wise made the motion to replace the streetlights with LED lights if we could secure a further 10% discount on the fixtures. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler and was carried.

The possible sale of the three lots behind the Nursing Home was the next item up for discussion. Brian Grunhovd had submitted a written bid for Lot #7 for \$8,500 and it was noted that there was a discrepancy with the lot sizes. Grunhovd also pointed out that the date given in the paper for oral bidding was incorrect. No action was taken since it was necessary to check with Nursing Home Administrator Leiting to see if any other bids had been received.

The next item addressed was the consent agenda which included the Minutes of the April 13, 2015 meeting, a parade permit request for the Car Show on June 13th, additional street closures for the Car Show and City funding of \$300 for spaying/neutering feral cats in town. The consent agenda was approved on a motion by Council member Hasler that was seconded by Council member Lehmann and carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Bills were then reviewed and approved on a motion by Council member Hasler that was seconded by Council member Lehmann and was carried.

The 2 a.m. closing license request by Elizabeth Valdez was the next item on the agenda. After a review of the results of the informal poll that had been published in the Journal, Mayor Nephew asked if there could be a motion made on the license request. Council member Lehmann made a motion to grant Elizabeth Valdez a six month trial period on the 2 a.m. closing license. The motion was seconded by Council member Hasler. Upon a vote the motion failed with Council member Lehmann voting yes and Council members Hasler, Widrig and Wise voting no.

Three banking resolutions for Fair Meadow Nursing Home accounts were the next item addressed. It was explained that these resolutions were necessary to update the signatories on these accounts due to the change in Administration at the nursing home. A motion was made by Council member Hasler to approve the resolutions on pages 27 through 33 in the Council packets. The motion was seconded by Council member Wise and was carried.

The final item on the agenda was in regard to an interest payment of \$50,831.25 on the assisted living bonds that was due on June 1st. Fair Meadow was currently operating at a deficit and would have to borrow the funds to make the payment. The City currently had funds available to make the payment and it would, therefore, be feasible for the City to make the payment out of the General Fund and avoid incurring interest costs on borrowing to make the payment.

Council member Wise made the motion for the City to pay the June 1st bond interest payment of \$50,831.25 with the understanding that Fair Meadow would pay that amount back to the City when they had funds available. The motion was seconded by Council member Lehmann and was carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian Nephew, Mayor

Lisa J. Liden, City Administrator