

MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 9, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the October 9, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pat Foss.

Present: Mayor Pat Foss, Council Members Craig Lawrey, Tim Ellingson, Roger Henstorf and Larry Karjala

Staff present: City Administrator Gina Ellingson and Greenwood Connections Administrator Laura Ahlfs

Guests Present: Ryan Miles-Ehlers and Jon Olson-Apex Engineers

Approval of Agenda

Approval of minutes

- a. September 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Karjala, to approve minutes as presented, Seconded by Henstorf, all in favor, motion carried.

Communications and Appearance Requests:

Ryan Miles reviewed the city's investments with Ehlers, reporting the CD's the city has with Ameritrade have earned interest in the amount of \$12,075 year-to-date. He explained that the unrealized losses reflected on the monthly statements are due to interest rates rising, making the CD's less valuable if the City were to cash them prior to the conclusion of the investment period. The investments are guaranteed for the principal and interest due at the end of the investment term.

Jon Olson of Apex Engineers reported on the cemetery expansion project and that we received really good bids. The low bidder, Hough Construction would honor their unit prices and the City could do a scaled down project, spending approximately \$35,000 to complete the platting as well as completing portions of the veterans, cremation and regular cemetery areas.

Motion by Lawrey, seconded by Ellingson, to approve the scaled down cemetery expansion project spending approximately \$35,600 (\$23,000 construction and \$12,600 engineering/designing/surveying) all in favor, motion carried.

Public Input: Luanne Mostrom-read a letter to the council regarding an incident involving a police officer.

Reports by Departments:

Laura Ahlf, Greenwood Connections Administrator: Administrator Ahlf reviewed the October 2, 2018 Greenwood Connections October Board Meeting Minutes and recommendations including payment of the September 2018 bills, August 2018 financial report, accepted employee hire/termination/separated report, QAPI update, medical director quote of \$2,000, Seip Pharmacy update and building project update reporting on the next possible inspection date of October 17th.

Motion by Karjala, seconded by Lawrey, to approve the Greenwood Connections October 2, 2018 Board meeting minutes and financials, as presented, all in favor, motion carried.

Gina Ellingson, City Administrator: Reported on meeting with architect for the liquor store project, three remodel options and a site plan for new construction were presented. Mayor Foss stated the City would lose the annual transfer of funds if new construction was the option chosen. Project costs are needed to make a decision. Pump was replaced at the clear well. While pulled for inspection, it was discovered the bearings were worn and the pump would need to be replaced soon. It was decided to replace at this time, avoiding a second charge to pull the pump at a later date. Discussed moving meeting time to 6 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. November's meeting date will be on Tuesday the 13th due to the Holiday and December's date needs to remain on the 6th due to posting of the Truth in Taxation Hearing. Set a budget meeting for October 18th at 2 pm.

Notices and Communications:

None

Unfinished Business:

The cemetery expansion project proposed at the last Council meeting was discussed. Council reviewed the quotes received, noting the low bid of \$64,680.00 from Hough, Inc. A letter from Apex engineer, Jon Olson was also reviewed. He had contacted Hough to inquire whether the project could be done in phases. They indicated they'd be willing to work with the city and would honor their unit prices on a smaller scaled project. Mayor Foss confirmed the perpetual funds thought to be available for the project cannot be utilized. The Council discussed the possibility of issuing bonds for both the cemetery project and the seasonal campground project to save on fees. Gina will check with the financial consultant to see if it is possible to combine into one bond issuance. The subject was tabled until the October meeting.

Discussion regarding the 8 site seasonal campground was discussed with Henstorf stating that the project would benefit the City and businesses, bringing more people to town. The topic has been discussed periodically for over 6 years and he said he'd like a decision to be made whether to proceed in getting bids.

Motion by Henstorf to go out for quotes with a July completion date. Karjala questioned there would be additional police expenses when the project is completed. Henstorf felt there would not be. Ellingson inquired whether it would be possible to consider doing 4 sites initially to reduce costs. Henstorf said that he felt it would probably be more expensive to do on a smaller scale due to costs for bringing in equipment. Motion seconded by Karjala, all in favor, motion carried.

Council had reviewed the Fire Relief Association's request to increase the annual benefit level to \$1,600 that was presented at the September meeting. There was no further discussion on this matter.

Motion by Henstorf, seconded by Karjala, to approve request to increase the Fire Relief Association's request to increase the annual benefit level to \$1,600, all in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

The CUP appeal by American Towers Corporation will be heard on Thursday, October 18th at 2pm during a special council meeting when members of both parties can be present.

Discussed the addition of stop signs at the intersection of 1st Street SE and Birch.

Motion by Lawrey, seconded by Henstorf to approve the addition of the stop signs at 1st Street SE and Birch, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Foss reported on the meeting at Greenwood regarding the hydrant layout stating there was differing opinions in where they should go, therefore an engineer should design the plan.

Motion by Lawrey, seconded by Karjala to approve hiring an engineer to design the hydrant layout at Greenwood, all in favor, motion carried.

Reviewed changes to the police union contract. Salaries will increase by .50 per hour, contract effective date to begin date of approval.

Motion by Henstorf, seconded by Karjala, to approve the police union contract as presented, effective October 9th, 2018, all in favor, motion carried.

Consideration of bills-Tim Ellingson had questions on a few items, Gina will follow up with him.

Motion by Henstorf, seconded by Lawrey, to approve the prepayment of bills and payment of payables as presented, all in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Henstorf, seconded by Karjala to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm, all in favor, motion carried.



Gina Ellingson, City Administrator



Patrick Foss, Mayor