



CITY OF FREEPORT

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June 23, 2020 – Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Freeport City Council was convened at 7:00 pm by Mayor Mike Eveslage, and councilmembers Sarah Blake, Ben Eittle, Tim Hennen, and Jake Renneker.

Staff in attendance: Clerk-Treasurer Joan Wall, Public Works Director Loren Goebel, Administrative Assistant Lori Austing, City Engineer Dave Blommel, City Attorney Scott Dymoke, Fire Chief Andy Grieve.

Others in attendance:

Carol Moorman (Star Post)

Ryan Schmidt (Schlenner Wenner & Co)

Keith Fischer (109 3rd St SW)

Approve Agenda

Wall asked to add claim #4152 for Northland Trust Services to the consent agenda under item b. Eittle moved to approve the agenda with the change, seconded by Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

2019 Audit Presentation

Ryan Schmidt from Schlenner Wenner & Co. presented a summary of the 2019 audited financial statements. The City received an unmodified (clean) opinion, which is the best opinion one can receive. Schmidt reported the audit went very smoothly in spite of performing it remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Forum

Keith Fischer asked the Council if the City could address the parking and traffic congestion on 3rd Street SW across from Oak Station Coffee & Cone. People park in his driveway, in front of the driveway, and on the grass. Fischer brought some examples of what other cities have done to address parking issues.

Consent Agenda

Eittle moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports

Clerk-Treasurer Report

Wall is taking July 6 off so City Hall will be closed from noon to 4:30 on that day.

Fire Department Report

Grieve reported that in the last month they had four medical calls and two fire calls. Grieve asked Council to approve the hiring of the three firefighter candidates pending their physicals. This would bring the fire department back up to a full roster of 25. Eittle moved to approve hiring the three firefighters pending physicals, seconded by Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Works Report

Nothing additional to report.

Engineer Report

Blommel handed out preliminary amounts for the 2021 project along with maps showing the planned improvements. The current plan consists of:

Sewer lining (no excavation):

- Alley between Main Street and 2nd Street NE – CSAH 11 to 3rd Avenue NE
- Alley between 2nd Street NE and 3rd Street NE – CSAH 11 to the extension of 3rd Avenue NE
- Trunk sewer along 3rd Avenue NE – 2nd Street SE to 120 feet north of 2nd Street NE

Water, sewer, and street work:

- 2nd Street SE – CSAH 11 to 4th Avenue SE
- 3rd Street SE – CSAH 11 to 4th Avenue SE
- 3rd Avenue SE – 2nd Street SE to 3rd Street SE
- 4th Avenue SE – 2nd Street SE to 3rd Street SE
- 3rd Street NW – CSAH 11 to 4th Avenue NW
- 4th Street NW – 120 feet west of CSAH 11 to 2nd Avenue NW
- 2nd Avenue NW – 2nd Street NW to 4th Street NW

Street work:

- 7th Street SE

Blommel suggested the City may want to double our budget for crack sealing. Blommel would like to meet with staff and one or two council members to go over the assessment process in a work session. The feasibility plan may be brought for approval during the July meeting and an assessment hearing for affected property owners during the August meeting.

Attorney Report

Dymoke had nothing to report.

Old Business

Painting the Old Water Tower

Blommel stated Maguire Iron and Tri-State Coatings are proposing the same paint we already have on the tower. KLM's quote is for a very different coating system. It is a better product and may last longer, but because it is different, the City may have more problems down the road. Goebel added Tri-State Coatings currently does the inspections on our new tower. It was noted that Maguire Iron would re-center the logo at no additional charge and Tri-State Coatings would charge an additional \$3,000. Etle moved to hire Tri-State Coatings and have them center the logo for a total of \$33,000, seconded by Hennen. Motion carried 4-1.

Painting Curbs by Oak Station Coffee & Cone

Hennen stated that citizens have contacted him about parking issues around Oak Station. When cars are parked on both sides of the street, it's difficult for the residents who live on that street to get through. People are having trouble turning down the street with a pickup and trailer. Blommel reported that Jodi Teich, Stearns County Engineer, said the City can paint as much curb as we want. After discussion, Council directed Goebel to paint the curb yellow 30 feet in front of Fischer's house, 30 feet in front of Oak Station

and around the corner to the handicapped access, and 30 feet in front of Charlie's house across the street from Oak Station.

Election Update and Resolution 2020-10 Election Judges

Ettle moved to approve Resolution 2020-10, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 5-0.

Rescind Resolution 2020-08 Declaring COVID-19 Emergency

Renneker moved to rescind Resolution 2020-08, seconded by Ettle. Motion carried 5-0.


New Business

COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

Ettle moved to approve the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, seconded by Hennen. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn

At 8:23 pm, Ettle moved to adjourn, seconded by Renneker. Motion carried 5-0.



Mayor, Mike Eveslage



City Clerk-Treasurer, Joan Wall