

Draft Copy
Owatonna City Council Minutes

The Owatonna City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Council President Schultz called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Members in attendance were: Council Members Raney, Svenby, Okerberg, Dotson, Voss and Burbank; Mayor Kuntz; Community Development Director Klecker; Public Works Director Skov; Human Resource Director Gorski; City Attorney Walbran; City Administrator Busse and Administrative Specialist Clawson.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Member Svenby made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Council Member Dotson seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

Public Works Director Skov advised several property owners attended the Neighborhood Meeting held Tuesday, January 10th for information about the proposed 2017 North Cedar Avenue Improvement Project. At 7:03 p.m., a public hearing was held for comment on the proposed project. With no comments heard at 7:05 p.m., Council Member Dotson made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Burbank seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval. Mayor Kuntz asked what terms the assessments approved during 2017 would be. Skov explained Council would set these terms with recommendations from the Finance Department following the project's public hearing held after construction. Council Member Okerberg commented Ron Segner, Engineering Specialist will be the staff contact for this project. Public Works Director Skov presented Resolution 5-17 to approve this repair on North Cedar Avenue and order project plans and specifications. Council Member Raney made a motion to approve Resolution 5-17, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

Public Works Director Skov advised three property owners attended the Neighborhood Meeting held on Tuesday, January 10th to discuss the proposed 2017 Lemond Road Project. At 7:07 p.m., a public hearing was held for comment on this proposed project. With no comments heard, at 7:09 p.m., Council Member Svenby made a motion to close the public hearing; Council Member Burbank seconded the motion and all members voted aye for approval. Skov explained the existing sanitary sewer and water are in good condition so replacement is not a part of this project. The entrance to the Owatonna Country Club will be moved during the project and this will allow access to the club 100% of the time during the construction project. Skov presented Resolution 6-17 to approve this repair on proposed improvement on Lemond Road and order project plans and specifications. Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve Resolution 6-17, Council Member Voss seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

Council Vice President Raney recapped the expenses for the period. Proposed disbursements total \$749,399.83. Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve payment of these bills; Council Member Okerberg seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

President Schultz advised council members review the Consent Agenda Items prior to the meeting for approval in one motion. Consent Agenda Items for approval include:

Minutes: City Council Meeting – January 3, 2017.

Temporary Liquor License – Steele County Free Fair – Aug 13-20, 2017.

Temporary Liquor License – Steele County History Center – Around the Word: Food & Brewfest - February 17, 2017.

Minutes – West Hills Commission Meeting – January 3, 2017.

Minutes – Human Rights Commission Meeting – December 13, 2016.

Monthly Activity Report – Building & Inspection – December 2016.

National Independent Health Club Association Rewards Agreement.

Custom Alarms Contract – 2017.

Memorandum of Understanding – Justice for Families Grant Application.

Equipment Purchase: Two Plow Trucks and a Front End Loader.

Accept 2017 Southeast Service Cooperative Wellness Grant.

Council Member Burbank made a motion to approve the consent Agenda Items, Council Member Raney seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

Human Resource Director Gorski requested approval of the 2016-2017 Labor Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with the Police Unit, Minnesota Public Employees Association. Summary of the contract changes include:

- Wage Scale – Approval of a 2% increase on the approved wage scale for 2016 and 2017.
- The Memo of Understanding provides placement of incumbent members employed as of December 31, 2015 be placed on the step in the Employer's salary structure before it was increased by 2% that is closest to, but not lower than, their base salary as of December 31, 2015. The Police bargaining unit employees will receive a step increase under the employer's salary structure as of September 1, 2016 and June 1, 2017.
- Employees assigned by the Police Chief to a South Central Drug Investigative Unit, School Resource Officer or Investigator assignment shall be paid a lump sum amount monthly for each full month the Employee is so assigned as follows: (1) \$250 monthly for the first 36 consecutive months of the assignment; and (2) \$349 monthly, effective the 37th consecutive month of the assignment.
- Sick Leave – Mother-in-law, father-in-law and grandchild were added to the approved use of sick leave within 160 hours of accrued sick leave in any 12-month period due to an illness or injury in accordance with state law.

Council Member Raney questioned if the school contributes additional funding when additional days added for School Resource Officers; Gorski responded yes. Council Member Okerberg made a motion to approve this 2016-2017 Labor Contract and Memorandum of Understanding; Council Member Burbank seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

City Attorney Walbran presented an Assignment of the Airport Lease to House Chevrolet. Walser Automotive currently holds a lease agreement with the City's airport for approximately one half acre of land with a number of restrictions for concurrent use of airport land. Walser Automotive is requesting the lease be assigned to House Chevrolet to allow for a complete sale of the property. Walbran explained he received a request this afternoon to amend the proposed lease assignment with the following changes:

- 1) Change the assignee's name to GLH Properties LLC.
- 2) Add a new paragraph providing that Premier's mortgage interest include GLH's leasehold interest.
- 3) Include a legal description of the leased property. The only property description referenced in the 2013 Lease is an attached survey-drawing showing as 0.41 acres.
- 4) Removal of the provision for "customary fees and charges" in paragraph two of the lease. This refers to use of "common areas" of the Airport; however, this lease is specifically for use of this small piece of land so not needed.

City Walbran recommended approval of the assignment with these changes made. Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve the Assignment of Lease as recommended, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

City Administrator requested tabling the contract renewal for Food and Beverage Services at Brooktree during 2017 until the next meeting. Council Member Raney made a motion to table this item, Council Member Voss seconded the motion all members voted aye for approval.

During Public Comments, Roger Wacek, 646 E Vine Street advised he recently read Heather Mac Donald's book, "The War on Cops". Wacek believes officers are backing off with a noticed increase in awareness of groups such as Black Lives Matter and believes requests for new legislation regulating police practices are a bit of a strain and should be viewed as a tragic waste of resources. William Morris, 213 1st Street advised the Owatonna Peoples Press will soon begin publication of Forge, a bimonthly publication aimed at businesses within Steele County. Mr. Morris will be directing this project as the Associate Editor; the publication will offer the business sector an opportunity to speak.

During Council Comments, Council President introduced Student Representative Erin Steffenson. Member Voss thanked staff for helping him by answering his questions and he begins his term in office. City Administrator reported there will be a Recycling Workshop regarding Recycling in Parks & Public Spaces at the Owatonna Art Center will be on Wednesday, February 8th from 10:30 – noon. Jenny Kedward, Environmental Specialist in Dakota County and Tom Schuster, Park Supervisor in the City of Rosemount will present topics on the status of municipal recycling, low-waste events and new initiatives such as the use of compostable items, organic collection & Composting.

With no additional business at 7:29 p.m., Council Member Raney made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Svenby seconded the motion, all members voted aye and the meeting was adjourned.

Dated: January 20, 2017

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Clawson, Administrative Assistant