

Mayor Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll showed Councilpersons DeGross, Ketola, Peterson, Sandow and Unruh were present. Lee was absent. Also present were CT Rosenow, Chief Darwin, PW Director Caress, Library Director Karlson, Sara Hinz, Lynn McIntyre, Greg Adams, Anna Mewis, Betsy Schug and Shawn DeWitt.

DeGross moved and Peterson seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Voice vote carried.

Unruh moved and Ketola seconded a motion to approve disbursements. Roll call vote carried with all councilpersons present voting yes.

In Public Comments Anna Mewis would like to see agenda and minutes posted on the City's website.

Betsy Schug commented that she was pleased that the park on First St was not among the properties listed for sale.

Unruh commented that summer rec registration is open.

In the Library report, Director Karlson informed the council that patron visits have been steadily increasing in the new building, two board members have recently resigned leaving three open seats, she's had a good response in recent donation requests and their grand opening is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> and will feature a jazz band from New York.

In the Public Works report, Caress stated they were enforcing the requirement to show the recycling tag before allowing people to dump, which as been going well, and the attendants will now start to work on curbing the amount of recyclables being dumped into regular trash.

A written Police report was submitted. Chief Darwin explained that his system does not allow him to redact only certain calls, such as roll calls, so what is now presented is a shortened version of what the council has been seeing. Mayor Larson asked for a version of the report which would show all calls but in a condensed format. Darwin also pointed out that there has been less coverage in recent weeks due to the birth of Officer McGrane's baby. Darwin stated that PD's throughout the state will be receiving ARPA funding and GC is slated to receive \$7,000. Details of what the money can be spent on are not yet known, but perhaps it can be used for the purchase of AED's for the squads so action on that item should be tabled this month.

In the Clerk-Treasurer's report informed the council that the annual audit is underway and reminded everyone of the April 5<sup>th</sup> Spring election.

In the Mayor's report, Larson commented the library board is in need of three new members, but he preferred to wait until after the election before appointing replacements.

In Old Business, it was learned that Cedar Corp's environmental department has been monitoring the old school demo and Sara Hinz would like to set up a meeting with the council to go over progress on the building as the project is wrapping up, as Derrick is hoping to complete the punch list by the end of March. A committee of the whole meeting was scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

AED purchase was tabled until details of ARPA funding are known.

In New Business, Library Director Karlson asked the council's permission to allow a Civil War Reenactment group to shoot off a black powder cannon as part of the program they will be presenting at the

library on May 14<sup>th</sup>. In discussion, it was suggested the cannon be fired off by the City shop rather than the municipal building parking lot and asked that Karlson have the captain of the group contact Chief Darwin to work through the details. DeGross moved and Sandow seconded a motion to allow the program. Voice vote carried.

Greg Adams of Cedar Corp explained to the council a potential 80/20 grant opportunity through the DOT that is intended for local road improvements. In looking at the City's road plan, it was determined that re-paving 320<sup>th</sup> St. in front of the bus garage would be a good fit for the project and the City's first step would be to have consulting firms submit a statement of qualifications for the project. The council can then decide if they want to proceed with the application process. Peterson moved and Ketola seconded a motion to proceed with the grant process and put out a request for statement of qualifications. Voice vote carried, with all councilpersons present voting yes.

Peterson moved and Sandow seconded a motion to approve pay request #9 to Derrick Building Solutions LLC for \$45,321.95. Roll call vote carried with all councilpersons present voting yes.

Anna Mewis informed the council the girls scouts have the opportunity to apply for a grant through the St. Croix County Master Gardeners which could be used to plant flower gardens or trees within the City. Potential places in the City were discussed, which resulted in Mewis being instructed to apply for the grant and if it was awarded, a location would be agreed upon.

DeGross moved and Peterson seconded a motion to adjourn. Voice vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shari Rosenow  
Clerk Treasurer