

Fertile City Council Minutes October 10, 2016

The Fertile City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Brian Nephew and Council members Dennis Hasler, Todd Wise, and Reid Jensrud. Also present were Public Works Director Kevin Nephew, City Administrator Lisa Liden, Fair Meadow Nursing Home Administrator Angie Leiting, Dan Wilkens and Twylla Altepeter from the Fertile Journal.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nephew and there were no additions to the agenda.

Fair Meadow Nursing Home Administrator Angie Leiting then gave her report to the Council. She reported that they began the month of September with 39 residents and ended with 40, operating at 94.3% capacity. The home had also served a total of 304 home delivered meals.

Leiting then reported that their annual audit would begin on October 24th and that she had no financials to present to Council due to the upcoming audit. She also presented information to Council on some lower cost possibilities for Phase 2 of the renovation project.

Mayor Nephew then asked if Leiting had any information from the State on how much the State reimbursement would increase as a result of Phase 1 of the project. Leiting responded that the State estimated that the rate would increase \$4.44 per resident per day.

This was followed by a brief discussion of Phase 2 of the project as well as occupancy of the assisted living. Currently the only room that was available was the room that Leiting and her staff were occupying during the nursing home renovation.

Director of Public Works, Kevin Nephew, then gave his report to the Council. The first item reported on was the status of the street sweeper. Nephew stated that Sanitation Products was having some difficulty finding a replacement door so it was currently backordered. They would, however, be sending a sweeper on loan until the City's is repaired.

Nephew then also commented on the proposed addition to the City Code addressing use of Nature Center trails. He had reviewed it and only saw one change that should be made. This was adding the word "unauthorized" to section 75.02.

Nephew also reported that they were busy preparing for winter. He had also been working with Garden Valley on their new fiber optic installation and had been doing many locates for the trenching project. Mayor Nephew then inquired whether the City had gotten any further information on the shop furnaces. Kevin Nephew then explained that there was little cost difference between the two that he had provided quotes on at the September meeting.

This was followed by a discussion of various City vehicles and how many miles they currently had on them and how they were operating. Also discussed was the yard waste site with Kevin Nephew reporting that the amount of brush being dropped off had about doubled. He also commented that the leaves were being composted and that any residents who were interested could pick up compost for free from the site. He finished his report by informing Council that he has been working on putting up the new banners and that, weather permitting, he should finish getting them up by the end of the week.

Administrator Lisa Liden then gave a brief report on Agassiz Environmental Learning Center. She reported that all of the underground electric work had been completed. She also reported that Haunted Trails was going well and that Valley News Live would be doing a live report on Haunted Trails early Friday morning.

The minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion by Council member Jensrud that was seconded by Council member Wise and was carried.

The Treasurer's Report and Bills was then presented by Administrator Liden. Liden went over some of the bills that had been paid in September as well as explanations on a couple of revenue items for the month. Council member Hasler then inquired about some of the percentages in the budget to actual report since they looked a little strange. Liden said she would look into what those numbers represented.

Council member Hasler then made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills. The motion was seconded by Council member Jensrud and was carried.

Reid Jensrud then gave his report on the Fire Department. He reported that they only had one call during the month of September and it was a false alarm. He also reported that a committee was working on pricing options for the purchase of a new truck.

Under old business, Mayor Nephew reported that he had spoken with Paul Reese of St. Joseph's regarding their share of the costs on the water main extension project. Mayor Nephew had proposed that the church pay the original \$10,000 as agreed upon plus an additional \$5,000 to cover the additional cost increase. The final \$5,000 could be split into two payments if the church wished. The Council agreed that this would be fair.

The next item addressed was the new Personnel Manual that the Council had been given copies of the previous month. After a brief discussion, Council member Hasler made the motion to approve the Personnel Manual as presented. The motion was seconded by Council member Jensrud and was carried.

The regular meeting was then closed and Mayor Nephew opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance #2016-02. There were no public comments or concerns expressed, and Council discussed the enforcement options that were outlined in the new ordinance.

The Public Hearing was then closed and the regular meeting reconvened. Council member Wise made the motion to approve passage of Ordinance #2016-02 with the addition of the word "unauthorized" to section 75.02. The motion was seconded by Council member Jensrud and was carried.

The matter of administrative penalties as outlined in the ordinance was the next item up for discussion. After a brief discussion, Council member Hasler made the motion to set the administrative penalty for violations of Ordinance #2016-02 at \$200. The motion was seconded by Council member Jensrud and was carried.

The final item addressed was the approval of liquor licenses for 2017. Administrator Liden explained that the license forms from the State were for the same four establishments for the same type of licenses that the establishments currently held. Council member Hasler made the motion to approve those same liquor licenses for 2017. The motion was seconded by Council member Jensrud and was carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian Nephew, Mayor

Lisa J. Liden, City Administrator