

MINUTES of the ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL
For Tuesday, March 24, 2015 held at 6:00 p.m. at
830 Whitewater Avenue
St. Charles, Minnesota

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilmen:
David Kramer
Dave Braun
Orv Dahl
Wayne Getz
Mayor John Schaber

STAFF PRESENT:

Nick Koverman (City Administrator).

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mike Bubany, Dan White, and Craig Hilmer.

1. ESTABLISH QUOROM/CALL TO ORDER

Quorum was established with Mayor Schaber calling the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL of the AGENDA: Strike Item 7) Electric Service Agreement

Motion to approve the agenda: **Orv Dahl**

No discussion.

Motion carried.

4. Notices and Communications. Admin. Koverman highlighted that the selection for Blandin was made and that the community was able to meet the 24-member cohort required for participation. Of those selected, Mayor Schaber, Supt. Kyle Karger Karger and himself were selected to participate.

5. Review of Financials. No questions.

6. Resolution #10-2015 Set Sale with Terms of Bond. Mike Bubany of David Drown & Associates addressed the Council to discuss the process of setting the bond sale as approved the previous November as part of a referendum vote. Mr. Bubany reviewed the terms and conditions of the proposed \$2.3 million bond with a 25 year term and a competitive sale. After reviewing the terms, Clm. Kramer asked that if the Council elected to stop the project, does setting this in motion obligate the Council to move forward. Mr. Bubany stated that it would not, but that only a few fees would be incurred. After review and hearing no other questions, a motion to approve the resolution was made.

Motion to approve: **Dave Braun**

Seconded by: **Wayne Getz**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

13. Water Service Grant Program. It was requested to hold a discussion regarding the water service lateral ownership/grant program from 2012. Admin. Koverman reviewed past discussions through minutes and memos as well as highlighting the community survey that discussed additional fees to help provide a program for the repair and maintenance of private service laterals that are currently owned by the homeowner from the house to the City's main. Clm. Braun expressed that he had been contacted by older residents who were concerned about the lead goosenecks breaking in the older neighborhoods and how they would be able to afford the repair costs. Clm. Getz added that he questioned how the city would control the shutoff valve especially if leaking or if the need to stop the service was necessary. The survey at the time resulted in the majority not being in favor of the additional charge to the city base fee. In order for the program to be successful, it was necessary that all residential users would be charged the fee. It was discussed how the concern for a repair was especially when the repair was from the curb to the watermain because of the street repair. It was agreed in 2012 that a 50/50 grant program would be initiated from the curb stop to the watermain and that additional help could be in the form of an assessment to the property if the budget allowed for such repair. In addition, it was discussed at the time how city staff would help in the repair to cut the cost. A brief discussion was held then with respect to how various communities have different policies as far as ownership. It was recommended by the City's insurance carrier and advisors that the ownership should remain as it is and that no change be made and the Council concurred at the time. Clm. Kramer expressed that he felt the policy was fairly generous and that he believed it was part of home ownership. Clm. Braun expressed that he too liked the grant and felt that maybe the program was not explained as well as it could have been.

Clm. Dahl said he still felt the policy was fair as well. Hearing no more discussion, Mayor Schaber expressed that it was his conclusion that the Council elected to keep the policy as it is for now. No further comment was made.

7. Electric Service Agreement-Archer—Mayor Schaber called for a motion to table.

Motion to table: **Orv Dahl**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

8. Joint School Board/City Council Meeting-April 6, 2015—6:30 p.m. Admin. Koverman reviewed the date and time of the meeting and said that final arrangements were being made.

9. Early Childhood Initiative—April 23rd—6:15 p.m. Admin. Koverman expressed that the Council has been invited to take part in a meeting hosted by the Early Childhood Initiative on the date expressed. A speaker discussing the value of Early Childhood in our community was expected to give a presentation.

10. 2015 Goals. The Council reviewed the revision of the goals and a motion was made to approve them as revised.

Motion to approve: **Dave Braun**

No discussion.

Motion carried.

11. Planning & Zoning Appointment-Jamie Bjerke. Admin. Koverman expressed that an application from Jamie Bjerke had been received for one of the open vacancies on P&Z. A motion was made to approve the appointment of Jamie Bjerke.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

12. Resolution #11-2015 Awarding Demolition Bids. Two bids were reviewed by the EMS Building Committee and a recommendation to select T&R Excavating's Option B for \$22,170.00 with the caveat that if the material to be crushed was not of a quality that was useful to the project or a need, T&R Excavating would accept the Option A bid of \$19,236. A motion to approve Resolution #11-2015 as recommended for Option B with the agreement by T&R Excavating was made.

Motion to approve: **Orv Dahl**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

14. LMCIT Liability Waiver. The annual LMCIT waiver form that stipulates that the City does NOT waive its monetary limit was approve.

Motion to approve: **Dave Braun**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

-Dan White addressed the Council and expressed that he would like to set up a time for the Council to meet his support network at an upcoming meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 6:38 p.m.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

Motion declared carried.

John Schaber, Mayor

Attest: _____

Nick Koverman, City Administrator