

January 12, 2016

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sleepy Eye was held in the Council Chambers, 200 Main Street East, Sleepy Eye, MN at 7 pm on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 per due all and notice. Mayor Broich and Councilors Zinniel, Stevermer, Schmidt and Hirschboeck were present. Absent was Councilor Schieffert. Also present were City Manager Kober, City Engineer Palm, Public Works Director Elston and City Clerk Tiedeken.

Councilor Schmidt move to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015 meeting. Councilor Hirschboeck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The notice of public hearing was read and placed on file for a zoning variance application by Terry Reibel requesting to allow a 3 foot side yard setback from the south property line and a 7 foot side yard setback from the east property line to replace the existing attached garage with a two story addition. The required side yard setback is 7 ½ feet. The property is zoned Residential. Terry Reibel's fiancé, Misty was present representing Reibel. The hardship would be by removing the garage the current setback would apply. She explained the existing garage does not have adequate footings to support a second floor addition. The proposed addition would be two floors of living area the same size as the existing garage. Planning and Zoning commission recommended approval. Councilor Stevermer moved to approve the variance. Councilor Zinniel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Schmidt moved to designate the Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch as the official newspaper for the year of 2016. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Zinniel moved to designate the First Security State Bank, Southpoint Financial and Americana Community Bank the official depositories for all city funds and checking accounts. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Schmidt moved to authorize the City Manager and/or City Clerk to select financial institutions of choice for city investments as needed or required. Council Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

City Manager Kober presented the Finance Committee's report and recommendation on employee wage and salary benefit adjustment for 2016. The matter was reviewed and Councilor Schmidt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption.

**RESOLUTION NO. 01-2016**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Sleepy Eye, Minnesota as follows:

That the employee wage and salary schedule as recommended by the Finance Committee and detail on file with the City Clerk's office and attached hereto marked Exhibit A consisting of two pages with said adjustments to be effective January 3, 2016, is hereby adopted. This includes full time, those part-time listed, and includes job classification adjustments.

It is the intent of the City Council to follow the recommendations of the Finance Committee for wage and salary plan adjustments in following years for those employees that are specifically noted to bring their salary in line for the position.

Dated January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016

/s/ James J. Broich  
James J. Broich, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Linda Tiedeken  
Linda Tiedeken, City Clerk

Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Zinniel moved to authorize payment of Hospital Board salaries with an adjustment for one member who did not attend 75% of the meetings. Councilor Schmidt seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Public Works Director Elston reported on a used 1992 Ford L8000 diesel truck with a front snow plow and an underbody plow he has located for sale. The truck has 19,000 miles on it and sale price of \$17,000. Elston reported the truck is mechanically sound but has some surface rust on the box. The underbody plow is worth about \$10,000 and could be mounted on another truck. Councilor Zinniel expressed concerned about the age of the truck and the availability of parts for repairs. The matter was tabled and referred to the finance committee.

City Manager Kober reported City Attorney Fischer had sent a letter expressing the council concerns to the holder of the mortgage on the hotel property and did received a response as of January 8, 2016 stating they were listing the property with a Twin Cities broker for \$550,000. Kober stated two private parties are no longer interested in the property and to divide the property for the event center would not be likely. City Manager Kober suggested that the finance committee take a tour of the hotel during the finance meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2016. Kober also added a new caretaker has been hired and the broker has visited the property and met with City Attorney Fischer.

City Manager Kober reported seven weddings have been booked at the Orchid for 2016.

City Manager explained the need for adopting tort limits on liability insurance. The state statues allow the city to waive limits but the insurance recommendation is for the limit set by law. Councilor Schmidt moved to not waive the monetary limits on tort liability and go with the amount as per insurance recommendation. Councilor Hirschboeck second the motion and the motion carried.

Applications for one day liquor permits by St Mary's Church for February 6, 2016 and February 20, 2016 were presented. Councilor Zinniel moved to approve the permits. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Engineer Palm reported on the following items:

- A. Reviewed the North Water and Sewer Project plans with the council. The new sewer line will connect to the existing system at the intersection of St. Marys Street NW and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and the new water line will connect at St. Marys Street NW and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW and continue north in the east road ditch along Hwy 4. Also discussed how provisions could be added to limit construction during the weekends in order to not inconvenience campers. The construction will try to avoid the mature trees. Two permanent 15' easements between

Lakeside Auto Body and Divine Providence will be drafted and apply for a MNDOT Permit. Palm anticipates to have the plans ready for approval and be ready to advertise for bids by the February meeting.

- B. Trail Project is dormant until spring.
- C. 2016 14 Hwy Improvements have been reviewed.
- D. Wellhead Protection Plan is currently being worked on.

City Attorney Fischer arrived at 7:30 pm.

Councilors Schmidt and Stevermer agreed to do the Board of Equalization training online by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Finance Committee meeting was set for January 14, 2016 at noon and will tour the hotel.

Police Chief Andres presented a quote from Federal Signal Corporation to replace the control box and battery in the existing siren for about \$4,675 and a quote from American Signal Corporation for replacing the sirens with one siren for about \$25,291. Chief Andres explained that the control panel on the existing siren is the problem and not the siren it's self. Replacing the siren would be expensive and would reduce the number of sirens to two that would cover the entire city. Chief Andres asked the council to review the quotes.

Police Chief Andres also reported he has received a request for a stop sign at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and Maple Street SE. He suggested now would be a good time to install the sign before more of the Snow Addition is developed.

Councilor Schmidt moved to approve the Police Report and Cash Fund Balances as of 12/31/15. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Schmidt moved to approve and allow the payment of the monthly bills in the amount of \$474,238.64 as presented. Councilor Hirschboeck seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Other business: None.

The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:10 pm.

/s/ James Broich  
James Broich, Mayor

/s/ Linda Tiedeken  
Linda Tiedeken, City Clerk