

December 12, 2017

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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 December 2017 per due call and notice. Mayor Wayne Pelzel and Councilors Richard Zinniel, Nathan Stevermer, Douglas Pelzel, Joann Schmid and Larry Braun were absent. Also present were City Manager Mark Kober, City Attorney Alissa Fischer, City Engineer Dave Palm, Public Works Director Bob Elston, Police Chief Matt Andres, EDA Director Kurk Kramer and City Clerk Linda Tiedeken.

Councilor Schmidt moved to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2017 regular meeting and the November 21, 2017 special meeting. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Pelzel made the following appointments to the Blight board and asked for Council approval: Sarah Hornbrook, Councilor Doug Pelzel, Matthew Vickery, Councilor Dick Zinniel and City Attorney Alissa Fischer. Councilor Stevermer moved to approve the appointments. Councilor Braun seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Fire Chief Ronald Zinniel was present to submit the following list of officers & caretakers for the Sleepy Eye Fire Department and recommended approval:

Fire Chief	Ronald Zinniel
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief	Ronald Moldaschel
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief	Jeff Zinniel
Secretary/Treasurer	Clark Trebesch
Trustee:	Shane Martinka
	Leon Steffl
	Aaron Schaumann
Fire Marshall	Al Windschitl
Asst. Fire Marshall	Kevin Hardin
Fire Warden, 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	Leon Steffl
Fire Warden, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	Mike Suess
Building Caretaker	Shaun Heiderscheidt
Equipment Caretaker	Shane Martinka
Lower Level Bldg. Caretaker	Brad Hoffmann
Air Pack Maintenance	Scott Braun/Jesse Fischer
Thermal Cameras & Gas Monitor	Scott Krzmarzick
Historian	Terry Weicherding

Councilor Zinniel moved to approve the appointments. Councilor Pelzel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The hearing for the Truth in Taxation meeting was opened by Mayor Pelzel. City Manager Kober informed the Council that the total tax increase is 3.46%, a \$41,600 increase in taxes. Total would be \$1,245,485.00 in taxes which would be up from \$1,203,885.00 total in 2017. Councilor Zinniel asked why the \$550,000 added for the police station remodeling did not increase the levy, City Manager Kober explained that the remodeling will be paid for in cash and not in taxes. Councilor Zinniel asked what would it take to lower the tax increase to 2.6%, City Manager Kober suggested that lowering the contingency fund by \$10,000 to \$410,000.00 could lower the levy to 2.6%. Councilor Zinniel moved to lower the total tax increase to 2.6% by lower contingency fund to

\$410,000. Councilor Braun seconded the motion and the motion carried. The public hearing was closed.

Vickie Kral, Deputy Registrar requested the council approve a resolution for local deputy registrar offices to receive a portion of the state motor vehicle title transfer fees because of program problems with the new MNLARS software system, that have caused longer processing times which has decrease the volume of business along with no fee transactions. DMV offices have increase staff, equipment and space to process the transactions. Councilor Schmidt moved to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 11-2017**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING**

**THE MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL LICENSE BUREAUS**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Minnesota established a deputy registrar network to provide our citizens with motor vehicle titling and registration services, including driver license transactions; and,

**WHEREAS**, deputy registrars are required to operate as agents on behalf of the State of Minnesota without compensation from the State for the services they offer; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1949, the State of Minnesota established in statute a user-based filing fee on motor vehicle and driver license transactions to be retained by the deputy registrar to defray all their costs to provide this localized service to our citizens for the State; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Minnesota now receives over \$1 billion annually in state fees and taxes collected through the deputy registrar network; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Minnesota has now shifted substantial clerical and auditing responsibilities onto the deputy registrar network due to the State's conversion to their new MNLARS (Minnesota Licensing and Registration System) program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the new MNLARS regimen is now documented to have multiple shortcomings which have severely strained normal deputy registrar operations with longer processing times that greatly limit their typical volume of daily business; and,

**WHEREAS**, other MNLARS shortcomings have frequently forced deputies to conduct "no-(filing) fee" services for customers which acerbates the deputy business model; and,

**WHEREAS**, deputy registrar offices are now forced to invest in additional staff, office equipment, and more space to meet customer demand due to the MNLARS conversion; and,

**WHEREAS**, the filing fee revenue no longer covers the operational costs to maintain deputy registrar offices such that many local government-based deputies are seeking local property tax subsidies and private operators are applying for lines of credit to stave off complete closure,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Sleepy Eye calls upon the State Legislature and our Governor to enact legislation in 2018 to provide deputy registrars with proper compensation by reallocating from existing state fee structures or other appropriate filing fee adjustments to ensure their valued service and continued presence remains in our local community to serve our citizens and the State.

Passed and adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017.

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Wayne Pelzel, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark Kober, City Manager

Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

City Manager Kober explained the need for adopting tort limits on liability insurance. The state statues allow the city to waive adopting a higher limit and adopt the limit set by state law. Councilor Zinniel moved to not waive the monetary limits on tort liability. Councilor Pelzel second the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Pelzel moved to approve unpaid invoices for mowing, snow removal and other services be certified to Brown County for collection. Councilor Braun seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Brett Kucera requested a transfer of the current contract from Braun & Borth Sanitation to River View Sanitation and also requested a 3.9% rate increase for residential services to cover the Brown County's increase in tipping fees. The current rate for single garbage of \$11.46 would increase to \$11.91 and family garbage rate of \$16.71 would increase to \$17.36. Councilor Braun moved to approve the name change and rate increase. Councilor Pelzel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Brett Kucera of River View Sanitation explained to the council for their employee safety and work compensation issues will be issuing a 65 gal trash container to each household in the city. This container will be picked up by the lift on their trucks. Each household would be issued a container and residents will be able to request more than one container. This change would take effect in 2019. This would be in compliance with the current contract. This container would be for garbage, a new recycling container would be issued by Brown County.

Councilor Stevermer moved to approve a one day beer permit for St. Mary's Church, 636 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North on February 2, 2018. Braun seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Pelzel moved to approve the certification list of unpaids approved of by the PUC Commission and of the write-offs to be done. Councilor Schmidt seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Braun moved to approve the following annual transfers: General Fund to the EDA Fund \$86,000; Sewer to General Fund \$245,000; Street to Debt Service \$220,000 for the future street project. Transfer from the Hospital to the Event Center Fund not to exceed \$500,000. Councilor Zinniel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Pelzel moved to approve the following annual tobacco license renewals effective January 1, 2018. Casey's Retail dba Casey's General Store, JANU-4 LLC dba Freedom Value Center, Scott J. Meyer dba Meyers Bar and Lounge, Ralph Grundmeyer dba Servicemen's Club, Staples Enterprises Inc. dba Expressway-Sleepy Eye. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

City Attorney Fischer reported on the following:

- A. Haala Annexation. Councilor Stevermer called for the first reading Ordinance 141, Second Series to adopt the plat of Haala 11<sup>th</sup> Addition.
- B. Reviewed the City of Springfield's Ordinance requiring a survey when a property is transferred.
- C. Mediacom has inquired about the renewal of their franchise agreement.
- D. Councilor Schmidt moved to approve the City Attorney 2018 contract. Councilor Pelzel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

City Engineer Dave Palm reported on the following.

- A. 2018 Hwy 14 Project. Working with MN DOT on the final plans. MN DOT is proofing electric lines, cable lines, and gas lines. Also working on the sanitary, steam and electrical manhole maintenance.
- B. 2020 Street and Utility Project. City staff met with Palm and added comments to the plan and listed the priorities. Also reviewed the schedule for the project and bonding.
- C. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. Have applied for LRIP grant. Will be submitting an application for Corridors of Commerce grant.
- D. Airport Crack and Seal coating. Waiting to hear about funding.
- E. 2018 Seal Coat. Working on plans

City Manager reported on the following items:

- A. Will be scheduling finance meeting the last week of December.
- B. Councilor Schmidt moved to approve the payment of the PUC Commission salaries for 2017. Councilor Stevermer seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- C. AV Capture. AV Capture would stream the council meetings to the city website along with features to help with the minutes. Subscription for one year would be \$199 per month.
- D. Building permit changes. Will be adding a waiver regarding setbacks stating that the owner is responsible for marking the property lines and staking out the location of the building.

Councilor Schmidt moved to file the November Police Report and to approve the Cash Fund Balances as of 11/30/17. Councilor Pelzel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Councilor Zinniel moved to approve and allow the payment of the monthly bills in the amount of \$392,224.32 as presented. Councilor Braun seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There was no other business.

The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Wayne Pelzel, Mayor

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Linda Tiedeken, City Clerk