

DRAFT-City of Blair Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 9, 2017

In attendance: Mayor A. Knutson, Alderpersons – W. Cartrette, C. Ekern, P. Syverson, J. Anderson, T. Wheeler via phone, T. Robertson, Attorney A. Robertson, Clerk S. Frederixon and City engineer R. Flege, members of public-J. Wheeler, R. Solberg, R. Anderson, Q. Kidd, B. Osgood, Blair Press, TC Times.

Mayor A. Knutson opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

Clerk Frederixon verified that open meeting law requirements had been met.

Public Comment Session: none

Minutes from Regular Council meeting held on 12/5/2016 were presented: **Motion by W. Cartrette to approve as presented/2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Anderson/Discussion – none/Vote – Yes 6, No 0.**

Blair Sportsman's Club Board and members addressed the Council asking the status of the Lake Henry dredging/upgrade project. The group requested that the Lake project remain a priority with the Council as it would be good for the community and surrounding area; they offered their support and assistance with the project. The City Council assured the group that the improvement of Lake Henry was still very much on the list of items they wish to achieve. The group asked questions related to the use of the two SPW - \$100,000.00 payments for the pool project. They had understood that money was designated for a future lake renovation. The Clerk explained the initial discussions with SPW about the \$200,000 was related to Lake Improvement, but in the Conditional Use Permit for SPW the money was not designated. The money was put into a general account for "Park Improvements". The Council, at the 8/1/16 meeting, verbally discussed allowing that money to be used toward the Pool project with plans to use future guaranteed royalty money toward upgrading Lake Henry.

Building permit for mobile home placement @ Bunyan Road and Hwy 53-Attorney Robertson and Clerk Frederixon explained where this permit falls within Ordinance 46.04(12) Zoning Districts MH-1 Manufactured Home District. In order to place a manufactured home in the City, an annual permit needs to be obtained after a review, a public hearing and recommendation by the Plan Commission and approval by the City Council. Mr. Osgood requested to be considered for a permit. **/Motion by J. Anderson to send to Plan Commission meeting scheduled for 1-24-2017/2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Robertson/Discussion – none/Vote – Yes – 6, No – 0.**

Building permit for M & P. Aabye @ 129 W. Broadway Street for general remodel with intentions of opening an ice-cream parlor. **Motion by T. Robertson to approve with verification of any required inspections/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion –none/Vote: Yes-6, No- 0.**

Webster Street extension project, review addition of water & sewer utilities- originally the project was approved without the utilities. S.E.H. provided an estimate of an additional \$156,600 for the utilities. Discussion was that the cost is more reasonable when done at the time the road is put in. **Motion by C. Ekern to approve the additional amount for water and sewer to the project and to approve the S.E.H. change order-Webster Road Extension-Addition of Utilities of \$12,600/2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson/Discussion-none/Vote: Yes – 6, No-0.**

Main Lift Station Upgrade Grant Project Update: R. Flege/S.E.H. explained that the contractor was behind the timeline and would not be able to meet the original finish dates. The City will consider applying for damage amounts as allowed in the contract, but will be willing to hear the contractors extenuating factors before making that decision. The Water-Sewer Superintendent, Bob Fraust is generally satisfied with the work being done. The contractor is on site now and starting the work this week. Precautions have been put in place to insure a smooth bypass while the work in being done. This phase of the project is expected to take 3-4 weeks. S.E.H. has reviewed

and authorized a payment request No. 4 to this contractor in the amount of \$27,125.35/**Motion by C. Ekern to approve request for payment No. 4/2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Cartrette/Discussion – none/Vote: Yes-6, No-0.**

State Trust Fund Loan Applications for three City current loan refinance applications:

Clerk Frederixon explained that these are the same 3 re-finance resolutions/loan applications as were presented at the 12/5/2016 meeting and approved, but it was noticed that the interest rate was incorrect related to number of years of the loan. They were listed at 3.5 % and any loans with BCPL of 11-20 years need to be at 4 %. That is the only change on these resolutions. Frederixon also informed Council that the TID 7 infrastructure Loan application from the December meeting was approved by the BCPL.

State trust fund loan resolutions-rescinded due to incorrect interest rate for number of years City wishes to refinance loan, on paperwork/**Motion by T. Robertson to rescind previously approved resolutions 12-05-2016 B, C and D/2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Anderson/Discussion-none/Vote: Yes-6, No-0.**

City Clerk presented the replacement BCPL State Trust Fund Loan Applications with the corrected interest rate of 4% to the Council for consideration:

**W. Cartrette made a motion to approve BCPL State Trust Fund Loan Application Worksheet # 05604597-Resolution # 1-09-2017B – Refinance BCPL Loan # 2009060.01 \$142,000.00/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion – none/Roll call vote – Wanda Cartrette – Yes; Chris Ekern – Yes; Terry Wheeler – Yes; Paul Syverson – Yes; Jill Anderson- Yes; Tim Robertson – yes/Motion approved.**

**W. Cartrette made a motion to approve BCPL State Trust Fund Loan Application Worksheet # 05604598-Resolution # 1-09-2017C – Refinance BCPL Loan # 2009060.02 \$50,000.00/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion – none/Roll call vote – Wanda Cartrette – Yes; Chris Ekern – Yes; Terry Wheeler – Yes; Paul Syverson – Yes; Jill Anderson- Yes; Tim Robertson – yes/Motion approved.**

**C. Ekern made a motion to approve BCPL State Trust Fund Loan Application Worksheet # 05604599-Resolution # 1-09-2017D – Refinance BCPL Loan # 2009060.03 \$282,000.00/2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Cartrette/Discussion – none/Roll call vote – Wanda Cartrette – Yes; Chris Ekern – Yes; Terry Wheeler – Yes; Paul Syverson – Yes; Jill Anderson- Yes; Tim Robertson – yes/Motion approved.**

Kwik Trip/Blair announced and requested approval for a new store manager, Tyler Nolte. Police Chief Wheeler preformed the required background checks and advised the Council to approve the appointment/ **Motion by C. Ekern to approve the appointment/2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson/Discussion-none/Vote: Yes-6, No-0.**

Police Ordinance committee reported from meeting held on 12/28/2016-Reported on Police department scheduling with addition of 3<sup>rd</sup> full time officer, informational only. Ordinances reviewed: pets in the City, alternate side and general parking with further meetings to continue review planned. Two topics related to a request to re-zone a commercial property to R-1 and a request to add mini-storage as a conditional use to the Industrial zone district were requested by Council to be sent to the Plan Commission for consideration.

Pool Committee Chairperson W. Cartrette reported from 1/4/17 Committee meeting. The Committee continues to meet multiple times per month and continues to be receiving excellent support through donations. Our second publication of monetary donors will be going in area publications soon. There has been interest from some local contractors to possibly help with some “in kind” donations related to demo/construction of the new pool...these discussions are preliminary, but if finalized would be a giant boost to the project financially. Discussion related to a formal vote on the SPW donation being used toward the pool project/**Motion by P.**

**Syverson to use the SPW \$200,000 donation toward the pool project/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion-some concern about that voiced/Vote: Yes- 4, No -2. (T. Robertson& T. Wheeler) Motion passed.**

**Motion by P. Syverson to designate \$300,000 of the remaining HiCrush donation to the City toward a future Lake Henry renovation project/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion- concern that this was not needed to do at this time, that is was enough that the Council had verbally recognized that Lake Henry was still on the plan list for the Council might be enough/Vote: Yes-5, No-1. (T. Robertson).**

New Horizon letter of request for \$5,000.00 toward their efforts to purchase a shelter for residents of Trempealeau County who experience domestic and other types of abuse. The City Council appreciated the efforts and services provided by New Horizons, but since the 2017 budget has already been approved prior to this request we would not be able contribute at this time. The Clerk was asked to place this on the October 2017 budget planning agenda for the 2018 budget.

Clerk report: Town of Preston is hoping to give Council some dates to consider for Fire Department & Community Center shared responsibilities so meetings/discussions can take place for future; Thank you for the donation of \$150 from the Son's of Norway group for use of the community center during 2016; information related to approved wastewater joint repair-expected life of 20-30 years after repairs; GVCC Board appreciation dinner was a wonderful and generous event attended by the Mayor and first lady and Clerk Frederixon; the City of Blair will now accept payments for most items related to City business by credit/debit cards-this can be done from the comfort of your home, over the phone or in person; Plan Commission meeting date is set for 1/24/2017; library carpet replacement is set for January 19<sup>th</sup> through January 28<sup>th</sup>, during that time the Library will be closed.

Vouchers presented for review and approval/ **Motion by J. Anderson to approve as presented/2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Syverson/Discussion – none/Roll Call Vote – J. Anderson – Yes; W. Cartrette – Yes; T. Wheeler – Yes; P. Syverson – Yes; C. Ekern – Yes; T. Robertson – Yes.**

**Motion to adjourn by J. Anderson/2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ekern/Discussion – none/Vote Yes – 6, No – 0.**

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Susan Frederixon, Clerk-Treasurer