

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was held Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Acting Mayor Kathleen Gottschalk, Council Members Ashley Huntley, Gene Miller, Jan Whisler, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White. Mayor Jennifer Gumbel was absent. Others in attendance included Kris Hanson, Jason Boynton of Smith Schafer, Mike Chicos, Alice Kempe, Dave Perkins, Lu Overocker, and Jim Gronwoldt. Acting Mayor Gottschalk called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Huntley, second by Whisler to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

Jason Boynton of Smith Schafer introduced himself and presented the 2015 audit report. The city received an unqualified clean opinion for 2015. Mr. Boynton reviewed the summary of the financial statements with the council. Mr. Boynton explained GASB 68 requirements and the required entries for this and answered any questions the council posed. Mr. Boynton was thanked for his time and presentation. Motion by Whisler, second by Miller to accept the 2015 audit report. Motion carried 4-0.

No one had anything to bring to the council during Public Input Time.

During Standing Committee Reports, Huntley reported the LeRoy Area Ambulance Board has met and will be increasing the per capita charged to the cities and townships in the service area to \$6.00 per person. The City of LeRoy will be charged \$5.00 per capita in 2017; the City of LeRoy per capita charge is \$1.00 less due to the City maintaining the Emergency Services building and paying all the utilities for this building. There is also a \$600 fee for a paid board member seat. This increase in amounts charged would be a total of \$5225 for the City of LeRoy for 2017. Huntley and Ambulance Director Kris Hanson reported the increase in per capita is due to building funds to cover the expense of possibly having to hire full-time EMTs to cover the hours when volunteer EMTs are not available. There are currently seven EMTs on the crew; in years' past there were over twice that many EMTs on the crew. The crew has been trying to recruit new members. Hanson noted the initial training class to become an EMT is now 160 hours. All EMTs and first responders also have on-going training. Hanson noted the service is trying to be proactive and plan ahead for the time when they may need to hire full time EMTs and/or paramedics to cover the hours. Council thanked Hanson and Huntley for this information. These figures will be used when working on the 2017 budget.

There was no one present to give the police report.

There was nothing new to report on the Water Treatment Facility, Water Tower, Backup Well, or a Capital Improvement Plan.

Alice Kempe, representative of the LeRoy History Museum group, reported ownership of the Bergan property had transferred on June 30. Council discussed the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process. Council would need to come up with a list of conditions, advertise for a public hearing, hold the public hearing, and grant the conditional use permit if no major objections are raised during the public hearing. Kempe noted the Museum group has also been offered a one-room school house to be placed on this property along with the Hambrecht cabin. Kempe had a draft drawing of possible locations for the Hambrecht cabin and another future structure on the land. Council discussed possible conditions that could be placed on this property for the Museum group to follow and adhere to. Council thanked Kempe for her time and information. Council would like to hold the public hearing for the CUP at their August meeting.

White reported she had not heard anything from Commissioner Polly Glynn about Mower County Road 56. The County Board met earlier in the day.

White also noted she had not heard anything more about the possible property tax-abatement program being considered by the Mower County Board of Commissioners. This was also discussed at their Board meeting held earlier in the day.

Council reviewed the policies required for the administration of the SCDP grant program. Motion by Miller, second by Huntley to pass Resolution 2016-07, a Resolution Adopting Policies for Administration of Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development Small Cities Development Grant. Motion carried 4-0.

White presented the slate of election judges for the 2016 Primary and General Elections. Motion by Whisler, second by Huntley to pass Resolution 2016-08, a Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2016 Primary and General Elections and Setting the Rate of Pay for Said Judges. Motion carried 4-0.

Council reviewed the list of events planned for Summerfest to be held July 15, 16, & 17. Lu Overocker from Sweet's Hotel requested to close the North Business Alley behind Sweet's Hotel on Friday evening, July 15, for a street dance. Motion by Huntley, second by Miller to allow this closure of the North Business Alley. Motion carried 4-0. Jim Gronwoldt requested to close South Broadway south of Main Street to the South Business Alley from Thursday night, July 14, through Sunday night, July 17, for an outdoor bar, bean bag tournament, and a street dance on Saturday night. Motion by Miller, second by Huntley to allow the closure of South Broadway south of Main Street to the South Business Alley for this time period. Motion carried 4-0. Miller discussed parking on that block of South Broadway; this item had been brought to council's attention at the June council meeting. Miller commented parking on the east side of South Broadway could be switched to parallel parking to alleviate people from parking on the sidewalk in this area and leaving the parking on the west side of South Broadway diagonal parking. Mr. Gronwoldt requested this change in parking not be considered; this would take away parking spaces for his patrons. Gronwoldt told council he and his employees were probably the worst violators of parking on the sidewalk on the east side of South Broadway. They parked this way to give a wider street path for the heavy truck traffic in this area. Gronwoldt noted he and his employees now park further south on the east side of South Broadway where the street widens out; this allows full passage on the sidewalk. Miller just wanted to note this issue had been brought to the council's attention; this issue may be discussed at future meetings. White noted there is a public parking lot behind First State Bank Minnesota. Gronwoldt noted there is no signage letting people know that is a public parking lot. White and Jones will check into signage for this area.

Council reviewed one land use permit.

1. Lot 16, Block 1, River's Edge-build new home
Motion by Huntley, second by Whisler to approve said permit. On a roll call of votes, Gottschalk, Huntley, and Whisler voted aye. Miller abstained. The motion carried. Miller questioned if this home would qualify for the tax-abatement program being discussed at the county level. White noted the council would have to also approve participating in this program if the county does adopt this program. White will further check into this.

Council reviewed the communications file. Items included (a) a letter from Mower County Recycling thanking the council for sponsoring the one-day Household Hazardous Waste Collection program and thanking Mr. Whisler for helping with the collection; (b) a thank you from the McAnally Family for the use of South Park for their family reunion; and (c) a letter from Mediacom discussing channel availability. Council reviewed a thank you and memorial contribution from the family of Al Knudson. Motion by Miller, second by Whisler to pass Resolution 2016-09, a Resolution Accepting this Donation. Motion carried 4-0. Council also reviewed an offer from the Mower County Assessor to contract with the City for the 2017 Assessment year. Motion by Miller, second by Huntley to pass Resolution 2016-10, a Resolution for an Assessment Agreement between the City of LeRoy and Mower County. Motion carried 4-0.

Jones reported that he and Whisler had met with SL Contracting to review pothole patching that needs to be completed and their recommendation to do crack filling on the streets in the Olson and River's Edge additions. It was council consensus to proceed with the crack filling. The pothole patching crew is supposed to begin work on this project tomorrow. Whisler noted that Jones does have a back-up contractor available to do the pothole patching if the SL crew does not get here.

White noted the sheet rock has all been installed in the upper banquet room of the Community Center; the mudding and taping has also been completed. White had two quotes for labor to paint this room. Quote #1 was for \$850 from Will McGill; Quote #2 was for \$500 from Don Theobald. Council consensus to proceed with Quote #2 from Don Theobald. The flooring installation will begin after the Summerfest weekend. Miller questioned about Community Foundation funds. White reported she is waiting until the project is completed before submitting a funding request.

White reported she has not sent out any letters to possible violators of zoning enforcement. She and Mayor Gumbel are monitoring a couple of properties for cleanup, or lack thereof. She noted she has not received any signed complaints. White continues to review the Minnesota Basic Code. Council discussed the canoe access. They expressed concern with the shallow depth of the water from below the dam to the bridge that crosses the river near the Leonard Soltau residence. White reminded council that Joel Wager from the DNR is supposed to be completing an assessment on possible launch areas for canoe access points. This issue may be addressed when this assessment is completed.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Huntley, second by Whisler at 8:15 PM.

Kathleen Gottschalk, Acting Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer