

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was held Monday, November 3, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Jennifer Gumbel, Council Members Kathleen Gottschalk, Justin Brandau, Vickie Lidtke, Linda Sanders, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White. Others in attendance included Deputy T.J. Lynch, Rose Erie, Dave Sandusky, Brian Thiel, Ashley Huntley, Ginger Holm, Gene & Rita Miller, and Axel Gumbel. Mayor Gumbel called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Sanders, second by Gottschalk to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

No one in attendance had anything to bring to the council during Public Input time.

No council member had anything to report under Standing Committee Reports.

Deputy Lynch gave the written police report. He noted it had been a busy month, but things are starting to slow down with the changing seasons. Council thanked Deputy Lynch for the report.

Council noted they had not seen any activity at the 314 East Main Street house reconstruction in the past month. White was directed to take pictures of the progress, or lack thereof, and forward them to the city attorney.

White updated council on the meeting held with a representative from Asbestrol on the asbestos at the property located at 102 East Main Street. He recommended taking down the building as all hazardous; it is not safe for them to remove the portions of the building that contain asbestos. Motion by Sanders, second by Gottschalk to accept the bid from Asbestrol, Inc. for \$83 per hour to supervise the demolition of the building with non-friable asbestos; the site supervisor duties will be to make sure debris are wet, fill out waste manifest, and general supervision. Motion carried 5-0.

Gumbel reported the personnel committee (Gumbel, Gottschalk, Sharon Thiel, Rita Miller, Clerk White, ex-officio) have reviewed the personnel policy that was put in place in December, 2010. They also reviewed the vacation and sick leave policy and accrual rates. It is being recommended to leave the sick leave accrual as is; it is being recommended to cap vacation accrual at 15 days maximum. Lidtke commented she thought 18 days accrual each year for sick leave was excessive; she felt employees in other companies have to use PTO (personal time off) for vacation or sick leave. She also felt that 60 days maximum accrual for sick leave was excessive. Rita Miller commented other companies offer short-term disability whereas the City does not offer that. Gumbel also noted the committee is recommending to pay down accrued vacation time of Jones and White; this would lessen the liability the City carries with the accrual. Jones could be paid down to 15 days in one year; White would be paid down to 15 days in two years' time. Motion by Gumbel to accept the personnel policy recommendations and pay out accrued vacation time to Jones in 2015 and to White in 2015 and 2016. Second by Brandau. On a roll call of votes, Gumbel, Sanders, Gottschalk, and Brandau voted aye. Lidtke cast a nay vote. The motion carried 4-1.

Council was reminded the annual truth in taxation hearing will be held prior to the December council meeting. The hearing will be held at 6:00 PM on December 1, 2014, with the regular December council meeting beginning at the close of the hearing.

It was noted the Rochester City Lines bus service from LeRoy through Grand Meadow and on to Rochester will be discontinuing service as of November 7, 2014. Gumbel noted two issues from this: (1) bringing people to town to board the bus and (2) bringing people back to town where they may do some shopping before leaving for their respective homes. Gumbel and White have a meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 6 in Grand Meadow with the Grand Meadow mayor and city clerk along with a representative of Rochester City Lines to discuss why this route was not feasible and profitable. Gumbel noted there is a group that is working on securing a larger van to still continue this transportation. This group has requested space in the city maintenance building to house the van. White reported Rochester City Lines was paying \$250 per month to house the bus here. Council discussed their options but felt to keep the rent at \$25 to \$50 per month for the van. Council also discussed what could happen if more van services would start up and request space for housing their vehicle. Gumbel also discussed the condition of Mower County 14 with snow removal, blowing snow, and sanding. Gumbel didn't feel that the

plowing is the biggest issue with this roadway; she felt not having any natural snow fences or permanent snow fences in place allow more snow to continue blowing across the roadway. She has also contacted Commissioner Polly Glynn; Polly recommended contacting the county engineer for his input. Gumbel will continue to follow through on this endeavor.

White noted that of the nine election judges that were appointed to serve for both the Primary and General Elections, one is running a write-in campaign for city council which makes him ineligible to serve as a judge and one person is tending to some personal issues and won't be able to serve. White suggested Diane Whalen to serve as an election judge for the General Election. White noted that Ms. Whalen has already received the election judge training. Motion by Gumbel, second by Brandau to pass Resolution 2014-07, a resolution appointing an election judge for the General Election. The motion carried 5-0.

Council set the date and time to act as the canvassing board for the city election held on November 4, 2014, for Monday, November 10, 2014, at 6:00 PM at the LeRoy Community Center.

Council reviewed one building/zoning permit:

1. Lot 7 exc W 30' and adj 40' x 165' old RR Rtwy exc W 30', Lewis Addition-build garage addition on existing barn

Motion by Brandau, second by Gottschalk to approve said permit. Motion carried 5-0.

Council reviewed the communications file. Items included a letter from Move Minnesota discussing transportation issues, a notice for the public utilities commission hearing on the proposed sale of Interstate Power & Gas, and a notice for a detour through LeRoy for road repair on Highway 63 next spring.

There were no snow removal bids to review, but Jones had received an offer from Koch, Inc. for the city to lease their equipment and person for \$160 per hour for the winter season from December 1, 2014 through April 1, 2015. Motion by Sanders, second by Brandau to pass Resolution 2014-08, a resolution entering into cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for snow removal from Trunk Highway 56. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Brandau, second by Gottschalk to approve this lease agreement with Koch, Inc. Motion carried 5-0.

White reported she is working with a local plumber for specs for the heating system for the LeRoy Community Center.

White reported the new Minnesota Basic Code has arrived, but the code needs to be reviewed prior to being adopted by the city council. It was decided to review the code after the first of the year 2015.

White reported she had not received any additional letters for property cleanup. She did note she had received one unsigned letter. Council was reminded there is no action taken on unsigned letters.

Gumbel noted she has nothing new to report on the DMC; she has spent more of her time as of late on other transportation issues. Council further discussed what to charge for the transportation van for rent at the city maintenance building. It was council consensus to charge this group \$50 per month.

White had nothing new to report on the Public Facilities Authority on funding for various infrastructure items.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Sanders, second by Brandau at 7:37 PM.

Jennifer Gumbel, Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk/Treasurer