

# **MINUTES OF ELLENDALE CITY COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018**

Present were: Mayor Russell Goette, Council Members Scott Groth, Steve Engel and Duane Goebel

Absent: Stephanie Kibler

Visitors: Sheriff Lon Theile

Also in attendance: Lee Ann Hojberg

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Goette at 7:30 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda was approved with a motion by Steve Engel and second by Duane Goebel. Motion carried.

Sheriff Thiele was recognized. He shared the current and new policing report that the city will be receiving from the Sheriff's office. The current report shows when the deputies log on to be in the city for the contract hours. The new report will show the contract hours but will also show the times that there are extra deputies in town and what types of calls they receive in the City of Ellendale. He shared that on the report if you see 5<sup>th</sup> Ave/3<sup>rd</sup> Street this is when they log on for the contracted hours. Sheriff Thiele shared that if information on the report is private we will not see the address of where the deputy was at. He shared that a premise check is a business check and that resident check is a residency check. This could be that they are gone and have asked the sheriff's office to check on their residence. He shared that Clear RLC is clear relocate. Sheriff Thiele shared that he does not have access to the State Patrols report so those are not shown on this report. Lee Ann shared that she will be forwarding these reports to each council member once they are received in the office.

Sheriff Thiele was asked about a recent stop just outside of town. He shared that they need to have a reason to stop a person. Once a stop has been made the Deputies can ask questions that may have nothing to do with the stop. These questions are appropriate.

The council shared with Sheriff Thiele that they have gotten questions about the amount of time that the deputies are sitting in one place. Sheriff Thiele shared there is no set time limit but he suggests to them no more than 10-15 minutes. He also shared he has asked his deputies not to sit in front or near the Ellendale Muni. If we see that this is happening he would like to know about this. Sheriff Thiele also shared he has suggested that his deputies stop in at the Muni and have a soda or even a meal but some of them do not feel comfortable doing this. This was understood.

Next the appointments were discussed. Mayor Goette asked the council if they had any questions or if someone wanted anything changed on the appointments. A motion was made by Steve Engel and second by Duane Goebel to approve Resolution 01-11-18-01 Ellendale City Appointment for 2018. Motion Carried.

Next Trunk Hwy 30 project was discussed. Steve shared that Paul Zaeger had email him the concept drawings that have been done by MN Dot. Originally MN Dot had asked the city to come up with our own plans but Steve shared with Paul that we do not have an engineering department and that it would cost us a fair amount of money to have Bolton & Menk come up with plans. Paul had gone back to MN Dot and they decided to share the concept plans that they have come up with. It was decided by the Council to get together with the business owners to share what we know and also the concept drawings we were given. We will have a special meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 am at the Ellendale Café. Scott Groth will contact the business owners. At this meeting we will share the questions that MN Dot has and get the input of what the business owners want to see.

Steve shared that the sidewalks will need to be done also by the ADA. It was asked about what would be done on Lerbergs corner. At this time we have not heard what they will be doing. Due to the sidewalks being done the city will need to look into the light poles as these will need to come out and be put back in. The city may want to look what we need to do to replace the street lights at the same time.

Next was the equipment agreement between the City of Ellendale and Josh Otto. Steve shared that this has been looked over by Mark Rahrlick (City Attorney) and it all looks good. It was discussed that Josh will need to keep a log as to when he is using the Ranger for city use. We will create this for him. Next the discussion turned to what to pay per month. It was shared that we could do \$100 as we did with a prior city employee or we could come up with a different amount. It was discussed to pay \$50 to \$100 per month. They council discussed what a fair amount was. A motion was made by Scott Groth to pay \$100 per month with the contract beginning on February 1, 2018. This was second by Duane Goebel. Motion Carried.

Next we discussed the possible increase to water, sewer and garbage. The garbage rate would go up \$1.25 to cover the fuel surcharge that the city is being charged. The sewer rate would increase \$1.00 per month which would get us closer to what we need to be charging per our bond loans. The water base rate would go up \$2.00 per month. This will help cover the water usage that we will be losing with the closing of Woodstream. After discussion it was decided to not raise the water rates. We will raise the sewer by \$1.00 and the garbage by \$1.25 per month. This will be effective 2-1-2018. A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Duane Goebel to approve ordinance 2018-01 to raise the sewer and garbage rates and leaving the water rates the same. Motion carried.

#### Clerk Items:

Lee Ann shared that the shoot on the small John Deere blower broke and will need to be fixed.

There is a meeting on the 2020 census that is being held by the League of Minnesota City on January 24<sup>th</sup> in Rochester or April 12 in Mankato. Lee Ann would like to go as this will tell us what the city needs to do for the upcoming census if anything. It was decided that it would be ok for her to go to one of these sessions. She will go to the session in April in Mankato.

The claims were presented next in the amount of \$105,508.53. After discussion a motion was made by Duane Goebel to pay the claims as presented. This was second by Scott Groth. Motion carried.

The minutes for the December 28, 2017 regular council meeting were discussed. A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Steve Engel to approve the minutes. Motion Carried

#### Mayor items:

Mayor Goette asked about the recent water leak at the Post Office as to why Luke Dobberstein was doing the digging instead of the City. Steve shared that Josh thought that the water break was on the residents' side and the building owner had contacted Luke to do the repair. Once the digging started it was discovered that this was on the City side. Mayor Goette shared that we need to look into the procedure on how to handle these types of situations. It was shared that the City needs to be doing the digging unless we are absolutely sure that it is on the residents' side. This will be shared with Josh.

#### Open discussion:

Scott Groth – Nothing

Duane Goebel asked about the email that they had received about PERA not being paid for the Ambulance. Lee Ann shared that she had forward this on to one of the Joint Powers Board member and received an email back that this had been taken care of.

Duane also shared that he had checked on the container for Jerry Ibberson. He can get one from Ed Nelson for \$2,400. We will hold off on this until spring.

Steve Engel shared that he is working getting his certificate for the Boards of Appeals. Lee Ann shared that the Duane is on this but it is good to have 2 or 3 people trained,

Steve shared that Ed Reiss has been in and looked at the furnace to have it vented outside. He has ordered the parts and will work on this. He also shared that Ressler Electric has been in and fixed the street lights that are out.

Steve shared that the budget is \$42,000 short on buildings/maintenance this was missed when we did the budget numbers. We will need to watch the budget carefully.

A motion was made by Scott Groth and second by Steve Engel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm

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Lee Ann Hojberg, City Clerk

01-11-2018  
Date

The minutes are a true and exact copy of the minutes as they appear in the Cities Minute Book.