

CITY OF PELICAN RAPIDS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 10-14-02

The City Council of Pelican Rapids met in regular session on Monday, 10-14-02, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, 315 North Broadway. Mayor Wayne Runningen, Council Members John E. Waller III, Dave Gottenborg, Paulette Nettetstad and Denise Magnusson were present. No one was absent. Administrative Assistant Richard A. Jenson, Assistant to the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utility Superintendent Brent Frazier, Monte Eastvold of Northland Securities and Rick Gail of the Pelican Rapids Press were also present.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Runningen.

Runningen welcomed Rick Gail to City Council meeting and asked council and employees to introduce themselves.

Motion by Waller, seconded by Magnusson to approve the minutes of 8-28, 9-9 and 9-25-02 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Magnusson, seconded by Nettetstad to approve the Accounts Payable Listing of 10-14-02 with additions of Egge Construction, a water line for \$413.39; Municipal Service Company, materials and labor for \$2,707.00 and the City of Fergus Falls for grit disposal and sludge, \$3920.14. Motion included payment of library bills as approved by Library Board Member Alan Grothe. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussed liquor store audit request for period ending 9-30-02.

Police Chief Scott Fox reported on the Police Department's activities. They are preparing for an enhanced enforcement of seat belts and DUI to be paid for by a state grant being shared between three cities.

Mayor Runningen introduced Monte Eastvold of Northland Securities to review the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Bond refinance. Eastvold explained he is now employed by Northland Securities with the same employees Juran and Moody had. "Our services should stay the same except with new letterhead and business cards; it is now an employee owned company," he said.

Eastvold handed out a National Municipal Bond Buyer's Index graph, and the rates of the City of Pelican Rapids Refinancing Bonds. Eastvold proposed that the City take action tonight so they will be able to sell these bonds at a single rate.

Motion by Nettetstad, seconded by Waller to pass the RESOLUTION AWARDED SALE OF \$890,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION TAX INCREMENT REFUNDING BONDS OF 2002 FIXING THE FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS THEREOF, PROVIDING FOR THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY, AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT. (A complete text of this resolution is part of permanent public record in the city clerk's office.) Motion passed unanimously and resolution declared duly adopted.

There was also a one-page contract handed out to the council.

Motion by Nettestad, seconded by Gottenborg, to enter a new contract with Northland Securities to sell the bonds. Motion passed unanimously.

Utility Superintendent Brent Frazier reported on his departments' activities.

Frazier informed the council of the mildew and mold growing on the bottom of the water tower. The only way to get this off is to power wash it; it is best to get it off as soon as possible. The lowest price he found was \$3800. Included in washing the tower is an internal inspection of the tower. American Water Works Association recommends that the tower be inspected every three years. Jenson recommended that we do this yet this fall.

Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Magnusson to clean the water tower and do an internal inspection at a cost of \$3800.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Frazier explained that the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) was built in 1988 and it was recommended that we not cover our digester, the following winter everything was iced up in the digester. That winter we put a temporary cover on and the following year we built the shed that is currently there. Last year they noticed the rafters needed to be replaced. Brent presented a quote of \$20,700 to replace existing roof. This price does not include electrical costs and some will be needed. We will use stainless steel, which was not used last time. The snow load on the roof is a big factor and the new roof will have a steeper pitch. This is not an emergency, but if we do not do anything and the roof collapses, the cost will be greater. Frazier presented a materials list to the council members.

Council advised Frazier to get another quote using this material list and to get pricing on the electrical costs.

Administrative Assistant Richard Jenson gave Street and Parks Superintendent Vern Benson's report on departments' activities.

A liquor store report was available to council.

Liquor Store Manager Bob Leslie recommends hiring Michael L. Mellgren and Margaret Johnson.

Motion by Waller, seconded by Nettestad to hire employees for the Liquor Store at starting wage of \$6.50 per hour. Motion passed unanimously.

Assistant to the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers presented the 9-30-02 Financial Report.

Jenson discussed the lease for the house by the airport with Elmer Tingelstad. Tingelstad has requested a two-year lease.

Motion by Waller, seconded by Gottenborg to renew lease for two years. Motion passed unanimously.

Jenson explained that we scheduled a public hearing for the 2003 Budget in December. The Auditor has told us we do not have to have a public hearing.

Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Waller to have the public meeting on Dec. 2, 2002, as set previously. Motion passed unanimously.

There has been a request to take library deductions and United Way contributions out of employee paychecks.

Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Nettetstad to allow deductions for the library and United Way out of the payroll. Motion passed unanimously.

We currently have plywood booths with curtains for election booths. This year there was problems with lighting and we removed curtains so people could see ballots. There are new booths out that are easier to put up and can be made handicap accessible. Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Waller to purchase six booths with one being handicapped accessible. Motion passed unanimously.

Runnigen was approached by Don Beck of the school board regarding a sign project. They discussed how and if the City Council would like to be a part of an electronic sign in Pelican Rapids. The council requested further information for the next council meeting.

Council inquired on the process for filling council vacancy. Reported that Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Glenys Ehlert checked with County Auditor and Secretary of State and found that the two candidates for Council receiving the most votes will be elected to City Council. There is no difference between a filed candidate and a write in candidate for purpose of counting votes. A write in candidate is not required to accept position. If write in candidate declines then Council will appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

Runnigen announced that last week Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jane Aschnewitz had a Tourism Directors Meeting at the Bluewater Sports Bar and Restaurant. It was good exposure for Pelican Rapids.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Julie Lammers

Assistant to the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer