

Lewiston City Council
Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2020
Lewiston City Hall – 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Electronic City Council Meeting called to order by Mayor Beth Carlson at 7:00 pm July 8, 2020.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present (5): Mayor Beth Carlson, Councilor Larry Rupprecht, Councilor Carol Boynton, Councilor Dan Robertson and Councilor Niles Lavey. Not Present (0)

Others present: City Administrator/Clerk Cheryl Knight, Ambulance Director Matt Essig, Police Chief Scott Yeiter, Bryan Holtz, Shawn Kennedy-Lee, A. Franzen and Nick Ebnet.

4. Agenda- Changes and additions

City Administrator Cheryl Knight requested to add WWTP blower request at 12.1.

Councilor Robertson motioned for approval of the Agenda with said change. Seconded by Councilor Boynton. Approved 5-0.

5. Adopt Consent Agenda

A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes- June 24, 2020

B. Accounts Payable

Councilor Robertson motioned to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Boynton. Approved 5-0.

6. Citizens' Concerns- None

7. 2020 Street Rehab Project Bids- Bryan Holtz

Bryan Holtz stated there were late additions to the packet including the award letter and a resolution. Bids were opened yesterday 7/7/20 and Elcor was the low bidder at \$250,917.50, less than the engineer's estimate of \$278,557.50. The project includes removing the existing asphalt and replacing it with 4" of asphalt, and a couple of other minor items.

Mayor Carlson moved for approval of Resolution 2020-18 Resolution Awarding Bid for 2020 Street Rehabilitation Project to Elcor Construction in the amount of \$250,917.50. Seconded by Councilor Boynton. Approved 5-0.

Councilor Lavey inquired of Bryan Holtz if he had worked with Elcor Construction before? Holtz said that he had, many times, and they were a class act. Holtz said that both bidders (Elcor Construction and Dunn Blacktop) are top notch.

8. Ambulance Department Monthly Report- Matt Essig

Ambulance Director Matt Essig said the report was in the packet. There were 19 calls in June, with 102 calls year-to-date. This is down 9 calls from last year-our busiest year. The ambulance broke down and was out of service over night. It needs about \$1,000 in repairs and the AC also needs repair. The new truck committee will hopefully have something for Council in the next couple of months.

9. Police Department Monthly Report- Scott Yeiter

Police Chief Scott Yeiter said his report was in the packet also. Tزد speed and traffic stops are increasing. There were more stops in June than March, April, and May combined. Yeiter stated there were some car entries and the car wash was broken into. Please remove valuables from vehicles and lock them, even if they are in the garage.

10. Employee Removal from Probation- Scott Yeiter

Officer Mike Rasmussen's probation should have ended at the previous council meeting but was overlooked with everything else going on. Rasmussen's probationary review was completed satisfactorily and Chief Yeiter recommended he be removed from probation, with a \$1 per hour raise (\$17) retroactive to 6/17/20.

Mayor Carlson moved for removal of Mike Rasmussen from probation retroactive to 6/17/20. Seconded by Councilor Lavey. Approved 5-0.

11. City Code of Ordinances Chapter 8 Discussion- Councilor Rupprecht

Councilor Rupprecht started speaking, but then was not heard from again. Due to apparent technical difficulties, his item was skipped and will resume when Councilor Rupprecht is back on the meeting.

12. City Administrator's Report- Cheryl Knight

12.1 WWTP Blower

City Administrator/Clerk Cheryl Knight stated she received information from James Creaghe (PeopleService) that SBR#1 blower went out and needs replacement. The estimate received was for \$4,954 from PD Blowers and does not include installation, shipping, or start-up costs. Because of needing this replacement asap, Knight requested an amount up to \$6,000 to be approved by Council and paid once an invoice is received. Mayor Carlson asked if this was the item Creaghe

had mentioned at the last meeting? Knight said no, that was a \$9,000-\$10,000 dissolved oxygen sensor. Discussion followed about the WWTP, and needs going forward.

Councilor Roberton moved for up to \$6,000 for this replacement blower at SBR #1 for cost plus shipping.

Seconded by Councilor Boynton. Approved 4-0.

13. COVID-19 Information and Updates

Mayor Carlson stated she was messaged from a citizen regarding requiring masks to be worn in public like the City of Winona just instituted. The City Council takes its cue from the state and county department of health, and CDC. We are following what these entities are telling us. If Council members are hearing other things in the community, please bring to City Council meetings for discussion.

Ambulance Director Matt Essig wondered if we will discuss the CARES funding the City of Lewiston received. Knight stated the certification form was sent to the State and we are awaiting receipt of \$114,743. She hopes to discuss this further at a personnel meeting. City departments need to track COVID-19 expenses and activities, as well as possibly backfilling positions.

Councilman Lavey expressed concerns that a sign at Cedar Park says to wash your hands before and after using the playground. Could the City rent or buy handwash stations to be installed at each park? Shawn Kennedy-Lee messaged in that Heartland Days used the stations from Friday am to Sunday pm at a cost of \$155.

Police Chief Yeiter stated that now that the alleyway between 1st and 2nd Streets has been marked, questions are coming up. Knight said that this topic would be good for a future Council meeting and will add it to the next meeting's agenda.

City Administrator-Clerk Knight stated that (unrelated) there was a City Attorney bill for \$72.50 dated June 9, 2020. A council member contacted LMC who contacted our city attorney.

14. Additional Council Concerns-

Councilor Roberton stated there will be a Fire Relief meeting via Zoom next Tuesday 7/14/20 at 6:00pm that needs to be posted.

Councilor Lavey mentioned the empty lot across from the bank again. The pond of standing water is a breeding ground for mosquitos, and the sidewalk has nails and glass on it. A pole is in the middle of the sidewalk, making the sidewalk unusable. City Administrator-Clerk Knight stated the property owner has been notified in the past regarding this lot, and the concrete and other building debris was cleared out. She can send a certified letter giving the property owner 30 days to clean up the nuisance issues or it would go forward to City Council for an abatement request.

Mayor Carlson motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Robertson.

Approved 4-0.

The Council Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:02 pm on July 8, 2020.

Submitted By:
Cheryl A. Knight
City Administrator/Clerk