

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
Monday, March 24, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, Mayor Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Mayor Bob Burns, Council Members: DeWayne Schroeder, Randi Vick and Member Lemke (6:08 p.m.). City Staff Present: City Clerk/Administrator: Ted Schoonover, Accountant Stephanie Mann. Guests present: Jerry Steele, Lois Greer, Marge Birkland, Sibyl Floyd, Mary Mell, Bob Hosch, Ed Ferkingstad, Carolyn Medin, JoAnne Zard, Chris Swain, Terry Lauden, Carol Nelson and Caledonia Argus reporter Kelley Stanage.

AGENDA: Motion by Mayor Burns, second by Member Vick to approve the agenda. All present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Member Vick, second by Mayor Burns to approve the consent agenda, which consisted of the regular meeting minutes from March 10, 2014 all members present voted in favor, and the motion was declared carried.

VISITORS AND COMMUNICATIONS: The above listed visitors were present to discuss items currently on the agenda.

CITY ACCOUNTANT: Accountant Stephanie Mann was present and presented the council with the current cash and investments, long term debt schedule, 2013 and 2014 budgets. These were reviewed very quickly with no comments or action taken. Mann mentioned that the annual budget out brief would be held on April 4, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in her office and invited any of the council to attend if they had the desire. The auditors would be presenting the annual audit at the April 14, 2014 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The swimming pool committee was present and was being represented by Mary Mell. Mell stated that she feels that there has been a lack of communication from the city and that the donors and public need to be kept informed about the projects status. She also presented the council with a listing of nine questions that they were wanting answered concerning the new pool project. The questions were as follows: 1) Who on the council is heading up the project? 2) Who is in charge of fund raising? 3) How much money has been raised? 4) How much of the pledged money has been received? 5) How much does the city need on hand to proceed? 6) If we have the plans why hasn't the public been allowed to view them? 7) Have local contractors been contacted in reference to in-kind donations? 8) Do we need another big push or is a referendum required? 9) What questions is the council fielding from the public? Mayor Burns answered several right away stating that Member Murphy was spear heading the project and since he has resigned another member will have to be appointed to the position. The fund raising aspect of the project needs to be driven by the committee itself and not the city or council. He disseminated the pool account showing what was raised, spent and what pledges have yet to be realized. The plans are available on the website that was provided to the committee but the city does not have a completed hard copy as of yet. Administrator Schoonover stated that he talked to USAquatics today and they told him that we would have them in hand on Wednesday. Once they arrive the public is more than welcome to come and review them. Mayor Burns also mentioned that once they arrive then the committee could approach local contractors to see if an in-kind donation would be possible. Mayor Burns stated that by looking at the current figures on hand and the remaining pledges it would appear that a referendum would be the only way for the project to move forward. Administrator Schoonover stated that he had a plan that could get more people involved and gather more support. He stated that we needed to move away from calling it a pool referendum and consider a referendum that encompasses the entire American Legion Park. We know that the baseball field lights need to be replaced, the tennis courts need to be renovated, the smaller ball field is in bad shape, the basketball court needs renovated as well as the shelter. He believes that by adding these projects would draw in more residents versus just those who support the pool project and would have a better shot of passing. He also mentioned that if we got all the estimates we could get this on the General Election ballot in November. The deadline to file or notify the County Auditor is August 22, 2014. He will get with her and the City Attorney and get the stipulations and requirements. The residents have the option of petitioning the city to hold a referendum election and if they wanted more information they can contact the City Clerk.

A public hearing was held at 6:15 p.m. with Jerry Steele present for an Interim Use Permit for a property located at 615 Washington St. He plans on renovating it and turning it into a bed and breakfast. Mike Gerardy, City Attorney Murphy and Administrator Schoonover all met and discussed whether to use a Conditional Use Permit or an Interim Use Permit. All three agreed that it would be in both parties best interest to issue an Interim Use Permit for 2 years to ensure the business can sustain itself. By Issuing a Conditional Use Permit the property remains in

that CUP until it has been vacant for a period of one year. Mr. Steele had no issue with the Interim Use permit. Mayor Burns closed the public hearing at 6:22 p.m.

Motion by Member Schroeder, second by Member Vick to approve the Interim Use Permit for a period of two years to Jerry Steele at 615 Washington St for a Bed and Breakfast. All members present vote in favor and the motion was declared carried.

The City Electrician submitted a request to purchase a wire spool trailer in the amount of \$7,150.00. The current trailer is handmade, over thirty years old and needs to be replaced. This item was submitted in the electric department's budget. Motion by Member Lemke, second by Mayor Burns to approve the purchase as submitted. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared passed.

Administrator Schoonover presented the council with a letter of resignation from Ambulance Director Mike Tornstrom. He has enjoyed his service with the city and enjoyed serving as director but he is currently pursuing another career path and needs to focus on that for the time being. He will still be an active EMT. Motion by Member Vick, second by Mayor Burns to regretfully accept his letter of resignation and to thank him for his dedicated and professional service to the city and its residents. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Motion by Mayor Burns, second by Member Vick to hire Benjamin Loging as a part-time fire fighter. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Motion by Member Vick, second by Member Lemke to hire Barb Lund and Scott Langer for the part-time liquor store clerks. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Administrator Schoonover stated he was approached by Tyler Thesing who is a student in St. Cloud studying to be a water/wastewater operator and has requested to perform his internship with the city. There is no obligation to the city and it is a good practical experience for the student. Motion by Member Vick, second by Member Schroeder to allow Tyler Thesing to intern at the WWTP. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Motion by Member Burns, second by Lemke to approve the 2014 Soft drink licenses. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Motion by Member Vick, second by Member Lemke to approve the off-sale beer licenses for Quillins, Kraus Oil, Kwik Trip and Alco. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Motion by Member Vick, second by Mayor Burns to approve the 2014 Bowling lanes license to the Starlight Lanes. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

Schoonover presented the council with an invite to the Southeastern Minnesota League of Municipalities Spring Meeting in Spring Valley on April 30, 2014. Mayor Burns and Member Schroeder will be in attendance.

Motion by Member Lemke, second by Member Schroeder to provide the following wage increases for 2014. Head Librarian (Marla Burns): \$0.25, Assistant Librarian (Eileen Jacobson): \$0.25, Assistant Liquor Store Manager (Nancy Steele): \$0.28, Part-time Liquor Store clerks (Sarah Nelson, Rhonda Oesterle) \$0.20. Roll call of votes. Yes: Member Schroeder, Member Lemke. No: Member Vick. Abstain: Mayor Burns. Motion failed to achieve a majority and was declared failed.

Schoonover stated that he has been approached by several residents who have shown an interest in adding bricks to the wall of fame in Legion Park and wondered if that could be collaborated with the project mentioned earlier. The consensus was yes it could be and if that fails we can always approach it as its own project. No action taken.

The employee overtime reports were reviewed and accepted.

Mayor Mentioned that we had three persons apply for the council position and one was asked to serve and agreed to do that if needed. The Mayor asked do we want a person that already has council experience or someone that is new? All four applicants are very well educated and good solid applicants.

Motion by Mayor Burns, second by Member Schroeder to appoint Shelly Sheehan to the vacant council position until the next election. Roll call of votes. Yes: Mayor Burns, Member Schroeder. No: Members Vick and Lemke. Motion failed.

Motion by Member Vick, second by Mayor Burns to appoint Karen Gran to the vacant council position until the next election. Roll call of votes. Yes: Mayor Burns, Member Vick. No: Member Lemke, Member Schroeder. Motion failed.

Motion by Mayor Burns, second by Vick to appoint Peggy Perry to the vacant council position until the next election. Roll call of votes. Yes: Mayor Burns, Member Vick. No: Member Lemke, Member Schroeder. Motion failed. No further action was taken.

The next regular meeting will be on April 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, A motion to adjourn was made by Member Schroeder, second by Member Lemke. All voted in favor and the motion was declared carried to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Ted A. Schoonover
City Clerk/Administrator

Robert Burns
Mayor