

City of Bayfield Special Common Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 23, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Ringberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Cirillo, Bryan, Burkel, Carrier and Mayor Ringberg

Others: Craig Skaaden, Paul Swansen, and Diane Fizell

Staff: Treasurer Johnston, Chief Fangman, PWD Kovachevich, Clerk Hoopman, Operator Pearson, Operator Burg, Office Admin. Mather, and Library Director Nelson

Review/Approve Agenda: Carrier/Bryan made a motion to approve the agenda with the understanding Agenda Item #2 – Mayor’s Report would be added, and Next Mtgs. would be renumbered to #3. Carried.

Review/Approve the Common Council minutes of September 16, 2020: Burkel/Bryan Moved to approve the minutes as presented. Carried.

Public Input on Agenda Items: PWD Kovachevich noted the concerns expressed by his department about the decision for a 0% wage increase that was decided last week by the Council.

Agenda

1. 2021 CIP and Budgets

a. Review proposed changes to both the Budget and CIP’s from the previous meeting:

The Council received an updated Budget Highlights Report that showed how the budget was changed from last week and is now balanced. Hoopman reviewed the line items changes one by one. Discussion ensued.

- Concerns were expressed about reducing the contingency fund to \$10,000.
- Wages. Carrier/Burkel moved to eliminate the Parks and Recreation CIP’s (Halvor Reiten, Cooper Hill, and Memorial Park) by \$13,500 and to use those savings to fund a 2% wage increase in 2021. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Cirillo, Bryan, Burkel, and Carrier – yes.
- Harbor’s Transfer to General Fund. Due to the extreme budget year, and having no notice to prepare, a motion was made by Cirillo/Burkel to write a letter and ask to attend the Harbor Commission’s next meeting to plead with them to provide their full historic contribution of \$105,000; at a minimum \$85,000 to balance the 2021 budget. Passed by roll call vote as follows: Bryan, Burkel, Carrier and Cirillo – yes. It was noted the Harbor Commission’s next meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2020 at 4 p.m.

b. Discuss solutions for the long-term financial health of the City: Some ideas were noted:

- Sell Cooper Hill Park Property. This cannot be done as there is a large culvert underneath that property.
- Move toward referendum. Hoopman informed the Council there is only one scheduled election in 2021 and that is the April 2021 Spring Election. To seek a referendum in 2021, the Council would be required to pass a resolution by January 25, 2021 indicating the terms of the referendum: how much, for how long, and for what?
- Consider the installation of parking meters.
- Fountain – Mary Rice has graciously donated the funds for operation this year, would she consider donating again in 2021?
- Creating a long-term financial plan for the City.

No action was taken on any of these times.

- c. **If approved, schedule Public Hearing for October 21, 2020:** Budget was not approved and therefore the hearing was not scheduled.
2. **Mayor's Report:** The Mayor read his report which focused on the activity that took place last month regarding the proposed UTV Legislation. He was disappointed on how the decision was made to not move forward to a public hearing and therefore not all voices were able to be heard on the subject.
3. **Next Mtgs.** October 21, 2020, 5:30 p.m.; November 18, 2020, 5:30 p.m. Informational, no action required.

Adjournment: Burkel/Bryan made a motion to adjourn. Carried. (7:02 p.m.)

Minutes by Billie L. Hoopman, Clerk