MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

WAUSAU TOWN COUNCIL

DECEMBER 17, 2020

WAUSAU TOWN HALL CHAMBERS

1607 SECOND AVENUE, WAUSAU FL 32463

5:00 PM

Berna Palmer Roger D. Hagan Judy Carter Shirley Rightenburg John Walsingham

Mayor Mayor Pro-Tem Member Member Member

Present Present Present Present Present

Others Present: Attorney Jeff Carter, by phone Office Mike Thomposon, Washington County Sheriff Department

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1. Proclamation: Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order welcomed all, invocation was led by Roger Hagan, and Pledge of Allegiance by all.
2. Consent Agenda: The following items on the consent agenda were approved with a motion by Mr. Walsingham, second Mr. Hagan, and with Rightenburg, Walsingham, Carter, Hagan, and Palmer voting yes.
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Fire Department Minutes: None
5. Minutes: November 19, 2020
6. Financials: Bank statements are in the packets reconciled and reports will be in January packets.
7. AGENDA AUDIENCE:
* Shelton Stone: Possum Palace Project Update: Mr. Stone presented the members with the revised bid after negoations with Hall Contracting and Construction, Inc. who was the low bid for the proposed CDBG Possum Palace project upgrade. (Attached) Mr. Stone went over the proposed bid of $472,000.00. Mr. Stone agreed that this was a very scaled down and acknowledged the concerns of the council that they did not want this to look tacky. Mr. Stone stated that the overhead doors were out at this point also. Mr. Stone also stated that if the town would authorize the purchase of the steel building to save the sale tax monies so that these funds could go into the project. After discussion and with the Clerk stating that she had been in contact with Mr. Cliff Knauer on the possibility of this being a project for this year’s Legislative Incentives funding and Mr. Stone stating that if we could acquire funding from the legislative for this project the entire project could be completed. After more discussion motion by Mr. Hagan, second Ms. Carter to approve that revised bid by Hall Contracting and Construction in the amount of $472,000.00 pending final approval by DEO and to authorize the purchase of the steel building to save funds if approved by DEO, motion carried with Rightenburg, Walsingham, Carter, Hagan, and Palmer voting yes.
1. NON AGENDA AUDIENCE: Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Stature 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public to be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board of Commission” Everyone shall have three (3) minutes to speak on a proposition before the Council.
* Mrs. Kelsie Wheeler asked to address the members. Mrs. Wheeler stated that she was here to ask the members to consider waiving the rental fee for a wrestling benefit that was scheduled for January 9th Mrs. Wheeler stated that the gentleman who sponsored all the events benefiting cancer patients now has cancer himself and that this benefit was for him and that this money would be coming out of her and her husband’s pocket. After discussion with Mayor Palmer stating that she did not feel that we need to do this we had voted previously to require rental fees and a $200.00 deposit for these types of events. After discussion motion by Mr. Hagan, second Mr. Walsingham to waive the rental fee for the Wrestling event to be held on January 9, 2021, motion carried with Hagan, Carter, Walsingham, voting Yes and Palmer voting No. Mrs. Rightenburg abstained from voting as Mrs. Wheeler is her daughter.
1. Clerk
* Water Reports: Clerk presented the members with the delinquent reports (attached) after discussion Council directed the Clerk to make contact with the customers with 3+ months to be either paid or locked. Reports were accepted into record. Council asked the Clerk to check with the DPS Collections on how collections were coming along.
* Waste Management Rate Increase: (Attached) Clerk stated that this would only affect our commercial customers which would increase for the January billing.
* Fire Hydrant on Jackson Street: Clerk stated that Chief Rudd was here to address this issue. Chief Rudd stated that the hydrant needs to be moved or taken out completely after discussion motion by Ms. Carter, second Mr. Walsingham for City staff to move the fire hydrant to the North property line, motion carried with Hagan, Carter, Walsingham, Rightenburg, and Palmer voting yes.
* Security System at new Fire House: Clerk stated that Chief Rudd was here to address this issue also: Chief Rudd stated he had talked with Mr. Hall about a quote for a security system that would also include added security for the front of the town hall. After discussion and with Attorney Carter stating that any quote/bid over $5000.00 would have to go out for Request for Proposals. After discussion motion by Ms. Carter, second Mr. Hagan for Chief Rudd to get at least 2 more local quotes and bring back to the clerk and to authorize the clerk to go with the best quote, motion carried with Rightenburg, Walsingham, Carter, Hagan, and Palmer voting Yes.
* Clerk stated that Mr. Hagan had asked about the Volunteer Fire Roster and that if he wanted to address this issue while Chief Rudd was here. Mr. Hagan asked Chief Rudd some questions about the Roster and the number of active fire fighters and support on the roster. Chief Rudd stated that about 16 were doing well and a few were slacking. Mr. Hagan asked about the run reports Clerk stated that the town does not receive the run reports and that she has asked for these multiple times with no success. Chief Rudd stated that he would check on the run reports being provided to the town and he would also get the secretary to update the roster to the new officers.
* Legislative Incentives: Clerk stated as discussed with Mr. Stone that the Possum Palace Project would be an excellent project to submit to the legislature for funding. After discussion motion by Mrs. Rightenburg, second Mr. Walsingham to submit the Possum Palace Project for consideration during the upcoming legislative session, motion carried with Hagan, Carter, Walsingham, Rightenburg and Palmer voting yes.
* Florida Retirement: Clerk stated that December 31st was the final date for the town to opt out of Senior Management Class for the Clerk’s position. Clerk stated that the town contributes almost 30% of her salary to the Florida Retirement System for her and that she sincerely appreciates but would rather have health insurance. After discussion motion by Ms. Carter, second Mr. Walsingham, for the town to opt out of the Senior Management program effective December 31, 2020, motion carried with Hagan Carter Walsingham, Rightenburg, and Palmer voting yes.
* SCOP: Clerk stated that the Small County Outreach Program was soon going to open up for applications. After discussion motion by Mr. Hagan, second Mrs. Rightenburg to submit the Second Avenue project for the SCOP Application, motion carried with Rightenburg, Walsingham, Carter, Hagan, and Palmer voting yes.
* Code Enforcement update: Clerk stated that she had invited Washington County Planning and Washington County Code Enforcement but neither could be present tonight, however Mrs. Burner sent an email addressing the update. (Attached). Discussion was held and it was the consensus of the council to invite both Washington County Planning and Washington County Code enforcement to a future workshop to address the issues of Recreational travel trailers/RV’s within the town limits.
* Resolution No. 2020-004 Closing portion of Unopened First Avenue: Clerk read Resolution No. 2020-004 motion by Ms. Carter, second Mrs. Rightenburg to adopt Resolution No. 2020-004 as read and to authorize the Clerk and Mayor to execute the proper documents conveying title to Mr. and Mrs. Young, motion carried with Hagan, Carter, Walsingham, Rightenburg, and Palmer voting yes.
1. Member Judy Carter: Nothing
2. Member Shirley Rightenburg: Nothing
3. Member John Walsingham: Nothing
4. Mayor Pro-tem Roger Hagan: Mr. Hagan asked about the leave accounting. Clerk stated that he had forgotten this but would get it to Mr. Hagan.
5. Mayor Berna Palmer: Mayor Palmer stated that she would like to propose that each of our three employees receive $200.00 each as a Christmas Bonus. Mrs. Palmer stated that this was the same amount as in previous years. Motion by Mr. Hagan to go with Mayor Palmer’s recommendation of $200.00 per employee for a Christmas Bonus, second Mr. Walsingham, motion carried with Rightenburg, Walsingham, Carter, Hagan, and Palmer voting yes.
6. Attorney Carter: Nothing
7. Adjournment: Mayor Palmer declared the meeting adjourned and thanked everyone.

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Margaret Riley, Clerk Berna Palmer, Mayor