

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 1, 2015

Officials in Attendance: Mayor Dorothy Knauss; Councilmen John May, Payton Norvell and John Wight; Councilwomen Sharon Ludwig, Roberta McMillin and Krisan LeHew.

Absent: Councilwoman Carra Nupp

Staff Present: City Administrator Mike Frizzell, City Attorney Charles Schuerman, Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Audience Comments:

- *Anna and Ron Kheel, 237 Quartzite Loop*, expressed their concerns with regard to the operation of a commercial warehouse at 221 Quartzite Loop by John Eminger – during the ski season, large trucks travel thru and park within the development. Mr. Kheel also had issues with the fencing at 221 Quartzite with regard to height and location.

Announcements/Appointments, including:

- Motion by Councilwoman McMillin excusing absence of Councilwoman Nupp, seconded by Councilman Norvell. Roll call vote taken with all in favor. Motion carried.
- Mayor's Youth Award to Malachi Fairfield-Vasquez.
- Mayor read Proclamation of May 7th as National Day of Prayer.
- The 90 day period for the filing of a referendum petition with regard to the City's intent to adopt the classification of noncharter code city lapses on April 15th – if no petition is filed by then, most likely an ordinance will be presented for consideration at the May meeting.

Presentations: None

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Councilwoman Ludwig approving Consent Agenda consisting of:

- >March 4th Regular Minutes
- >March Payroll and Claim Vouchers

Seconded by Councilwoman McMillin. Roll call vote taken with all votes in favor. Motion carried.

Committee/Commission Reports:

- Finance/Councilwoman Ludwig: Working on an ordinance which clarifies how we bill for commercial property where there are multiple units in one building. Also worked on wage adjustments as proposed by the Mayor to bring wages up to 85% of the average of similar cities of our size, per annual AWC salary survey. We did not have a consensus on that wage adjustment, just a majority.

The Mayor explained that in all her years working for the City a constant statement was "Why does so and so get paid more than me – I work just as hard". I tried to take an approach that people couldn't argue with. Every year the Association of Washington Cities compiles a salary survey (we take part in that survey). I suggested that we take the average in each job category and pay our employees 85% of that average, based on cities in the same population category – I'd like to get to 90% but I suggested starting at 85%. Some of our employees are currently above that. There are three below 85% – our City Administrator is *way below that* – I based his adjustment on the average base pay for smaller sized cities.

Following discussion, motion by Councilman May approving base wage adjustments for City Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer and Deputy Billing Clerk as recommended by the

*Alk
PJM*

Mayor commencing April 1st, seconded by Councilwoman McMillin. Roll call vote taken with Councilwoman LeHew voting against, remaining votes in favor. Motion carried.

- Code/Councilman May: Working on Nuisance ordinance. Will take a while as there are many sample documents to review.
- Park-Cemetery/Councilwoman Ludwig: Working on compilation of a park plan.

City Administrator Report:

- The employees attended an anti-harassment training today provided on DVD by WCIA.
- Needs to meet in the near future with the Facilities Committee. Needs direction as to whether or not to log the 20 acres to be separated out of the Sand Canyon property. If we need more information with regard to the value of that property, we'll need to talk to Steve Schalock. At that point, I'd feel a moral obligation to list it with him due to the time and effort he's expended.
- The municipal flower beds have been gutted. We will be laying down plastic barrier/beauty bark. Roberta and someone else are working on a future planting schedule of tall grasses, bushes, etc.
- In a few weeks city crew will be working on the park playground: installing a merry-go-round and a couple of other items, placing new pea gravel under the swing set, etc.
- Today I sent out letters to everyone on Richmond Lane and everyone who owns an airport hangar explaining the additional insurance option that Council adopted last month with regard to the use of Richmond Lane and aircraft.
- I will be meeting with the engineer and Gary next week at the site for the new shop building. We hauled off piles and started to grub off some of the vegetation – a soil survey needs to be performed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Councilwoman LeHew stated that after reviewing the wages, she realized that no cost of living increases are given to the Fire Department. MRSC sent her a salary profile of all fire chiefs in the state – she focused on those closest to our population. If our Fire Chief works 10 hours/week, based on the average hourly rate that other volunteer fire chiefs are getting – that computes to \$600/month which is only \$15/hour. I feel like we left him behind. The Mayor suggested that the Finance Committee review the compensation of the Fire Department.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM.


Mayor Dorothy L. Knauss


Clerk/Treasurer Pamela McCart