

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 04, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Marvin More at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the St. Clair City Hall, 304 Main Street West, St. Clair, Minnesota. Council Members present: Mayor More, Cindy Glamm, Duke Arndt, Randy Thompson and Dick Fitzloff. Council Members absent: No Council Members were absent. City Staff present: Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer and Thad Baker, Public Works Supervisor and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk), Jane Qualey (US Solar).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor More welcomed all visitors and guests.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES AND BILLS

A motion was made by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Thompson to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all in favor.

The minutes of February 11, 2019 Regular Council Meeting were approved with a motion by Council Member Thompson, seconded by Council Member Glamm and carried with all in favor.

The invoices and bills for the month of February 2019 were approved with a motion by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Thompson and carried with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS – The following New Business items were discussed:

US SOLAR – Jane Qualey was present representing US Solar. Ms. Qualey discussed US Solar, a Minnesota based company, which plans to construct a 1 megawatt solar garden on 10 acres of land near Rapidan, Minnesota. Ms. Qualey submitted a proposal for the City to subscribe to the garden. She also discussed the term of the agreement which offers a flat rate and exit options in year 15 and year 20. Ms. Qualey further noted that there is no fee or penalty if exercising the exit option after 15 years. Ms. Qualey explained that construction is expected to begin in May and is expected to take approx. 8 weeks, weather permitting, with the solar garden on-line and subscription credits starting in August. Ms. Qualey also briefly discussed the US Solar customer portal. The Council expressed interest in US Solar proposal, finding the exit options attractive as other solar proposals the Council has reviewed have offered 25 year terms. Clerk-Treasurer Seys will forward the agreement to the City Attorney for his review. Ms. Qualey will attend the April 2nd City Council meeting to further discuss the proposal.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The following Unfinished Business items were discussed:

PARK STREET NORTH LIFT STATION MITIGATION PROJECT UPDATE – Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk) was present to discuss the Park Street North Lift Station Mitigation Project, the utility easement and the status of the lease agreement between Fitzloff Properties and the US Postal Service (USPS). Bill Fitzloff, representing the owners of Fitzloff Properties, noted that he has contacted Postal Service representative Denise Stobbe at the Colorado USPS office and has e-mailed information regarding the changes to the parking lot area due to the proposed mitigation project. Mr. Fitzloff noted that according to Ms. Stobbe, any time there is such a change to a lease agreement it triggers a 'lease audit'. Ms. Stobbe also noted that there are new rules for the USPS regarding lease agreements. Mr. Fitzloff stated that the USPS is requiring additional liability insurance, flood insurance and is requesting a copy of the by-laws for the

property. Mr. Domras will contact Ms. Stobbe to further explain the mitigation project and reiterate the need to get the matter settled in a timely manner.

REPORTS

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The St. Clair Fire Dept. has responded to 18 calls to date in 2019.
2. Three (3) recalls have been received on the grass rig.
3. Two (2) Fire Dept. members attended training at South Central College.
4. The Annual Firefighters Dance will be held on Saturday, April 13th with the Eagle Lake and Madison Lake Fire Dept. The dance will be held 8:30 pm – 12 midnight at the Eagle Lake American Legion.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Dept. Supervisor Thad Baker reported on the following:

1. Three (3) water main breaks have been repaired in the past month.
2. A street repair project on Mill Street was briefly discussed. Street repair along with replacement of water mains and hydrants was also discussed.
3. The City received the MN Pollution Control Agency's Wastewater Treatment Facility Operation Award for Facility Compliance.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. Clerk-Treasurer Seys attended the Huntley Wilmarth Transmission Line Project public hearing on February 27th.
2. The City of St. Clair will be hosting the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks on Thursday, April 11th. The speaker for the evening will be Kelly McBride, Director of the Blue Earth County Library.
3. Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 8th – 12th, with the statewide tornado drill sounding on Thursday, April 11th at 12:45 pm and 6:45 pm.
4. City Wide Clean-Up Day has been scheduled with LJP Waste and Recycle for Saturday, May 4th.
5. Planning is underway for St. Clair Days 2019 (June 20, 21, 22 and 23).
6. The furnace (29 years old), that serves the City Hall Office, Meeting Room and kitchen is not working. The repairman said that, due to the age/type of furnace, most replacement parts are no longer available, those that are available are extremely expensive, it was his recommendation that the City replace the furnace. A new furnace will be ordered and installed as soon as possible.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. The City Council and the School Board both met on Monday, February 11th, so no Council Member was in attendance at the February School Board meeting. The next School Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 18th, Council Member Arndt plans to attend.
2. The February meeting of the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks was cancelled due to inclement weather. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14th with the City of Amboy hosting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no comments from the public during this portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Thompson seconded by Council Member Arndt and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer

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