

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 07, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Marvin More at 7:00 p.m. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the meeting was held remotely via a video conference call. Council Members on the video conference: Mayor More, Cindy Glamm, Duke Arndt, Randy Thompson and Dick Fitzloff. Council Members not available for the video conference: None. City Staff on the video conference meeting: Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief, Thad Baker, Public Works Supervisor and Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer. Others on the video conference: Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk) and Brian Sarff (Bolton and Menk).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor More welcomed everyone.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES AND BILLS

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

The minutes of the March 2020 Regular Council Meeting were approved with a motion by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Arndt and carried with all in favor.

The invoices and bills for the month of March 2020 were approved with a motion by Council Member Thompson, seconded by Council Member Arndt and carried with all in favor.

It was noted that Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk) was on a video conference with another city and would not be available to join our video conference until approx. 7:15 pm. The Council changed the usual order of the meeting and discussed the New Business items prior to the Unfinished Business items.

NEW BUSINESS – The following New Business items were discussed:

BLUE EARTH COUNTY ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – Resolution #2020-04 Resolution Adopting the Blue Earth County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan presented. Clerk-Treasurer Seys noted that she has attended several meetings relating to the updating of the Blue Earth County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, the updated plan is now completed and since it is a multi-jurisdictional plan ready for approval by all communities included in the plan. Motion by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Fitzloff to approve the Resolution Adopting the Blue Earth County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried with all in favor.

APPOINTING ACTING MAYOR AND SUCCESSION ORDER – Resolution #2020-05 Resolution Appointing Acting Mayor and Succession Order was presented. The resolution was recommended by City Attorney Chris Kennedy. It discussed that although the City appoints an Acting Mayor annually in January, with the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, identifying a ‘succession order’ among the Council Members is prudent. The Resolution Appointing Acting Mayor and Succession Order was approved with a motion by Council Member Thompson, seconded by Council Member Arndt and carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The following Unfinished Business items were discussed:

MILL STREET/PARK STREET SOUTH PROJECT – Jeff Domras and Brian Sarff (Bolton and Menk) were present via video conference to discuss and explain the proposed Mill Street/Park Street South Improvement Project. The proposed project includes a water main upgrade to replace the old,

undersized 4" main with a 6" main. The existing sewer main was televised to determine its condition. The existing sewer main is vitrified clay pipe (VCP) and found to be in very poor condition. The proposed project would include replacement the clay pipe with new 8" PVC pipe and new sanitary sewer manholes. It is also proposed to extend sewer services from the main to the property line. Street reconstruction will be done after the underground infrastructure work is completed. It was also proposed to pave the entrance to the Water Treatment Plant on Park Street South and the parking lot which are currently gravel. Drainage improvements at the intersection of Park Street South and Front Street East were discussed at length. Modifying the proposed project to include a catch basin and storm sewer along Park Street South to Main Street East was discussed to alleviate the drainage issues at the intersection of Park Street South and Front Street East. A drive-over/roll curb was discussed for the area. Mr. Domras noted that additional survey work and design changes would need to be done to incorporate the addition of storm sewer, catch basin and curb/gutter into the proposed project. Mr. Domras also noted that such changes will affect the proposed project timeline. A motion was made by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Fitzloff to continue with the project as proposed along with the addition of the storm sewer, catch basin and curb/gutter along Park Street South from Front Street East to Main Street East. Motion carried with all in favor.

REPORTS

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. Township Fire Contracts were discussed. Township Fire Contracts are renewed every three (3) years. Along with the City of St. Clair, the St. Clair Fire Dept. covers portions of five (5) Townships (Decoria, LeRay, Mankato, McPherson and Medo). Fire Chief Fitzloff met with the McPherson Township Board and the Board approved the new 3-year contract. With the Covid-19 pandemic, Fire Chief Fitzloff was unable to meet with LeRay, Mankato and Medo Township. The contract information was sent to the Townships by mail. Fire Chief Fitzloff will either meet with the Townships remotely or when the pandemic protocols are lifted. As discussed at the March City Council meeting, Fire Chief Fitzloff met with the Decoria Township Board and they were not in agreement with the proposed Fire Contract. The City Council invited Decoria Township Board representatives to attend the April Council meeting, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic will meet with them when the pandemic protocols are lifted.
2. The Annual Firefighters Dance planned for Saturday, April 18th with the Eagle Lake and Madison Lake Fire Dept. has been postponed and may be scheduled at a later date.
3. The First Responder Refresher classes scheduled for March 18th, 23rd and 25th have been postponed until possibly August.
4. The St. Clair Fire Dept. hosted the Regional Fire Chief's Association at the St. Clair Fire Hall on Monday, March 16th. The meeting was well attended by the regional fire chief's with Eric Weller and Blue Earth County Emergency Management personnel also in attendance. The meeting was lengthy and covered numerous pandemic protocols and changes as they relate to fire departments and First Responders.
5. The County Fire Chief's met via video conference and also discussed Covid-19 pandemic protocols.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Thad Baker reported on the following:

1. Borgen, Inc. completed the annual crack sealing on Monday, April 6th.
2. Street sweeping of city curb and gutter streets will hopefully be coordinated with BEC and done when the County does sweeping on the County streets.

3. A quote has been received from D&D Yard Service for mosquito spraying for \$285.00 every two (2) weeks. It was noted that the D&D Yard Service did mosquito spraying for the City in 2019. Motion by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Thompson to accept the quote received from D&D Yard Service for mosquito spraying for the 2020 season. Motion carried with all in favor.
4. The City of Mapleton and the City of St. Clair Public Works Dept. exchanged emergency manuals of daily duties and operations at the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant in an effort to assist and/or back each other up if necessary during the Covid-19 pandemic.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. Updates relating to the Covid-19 pandemic are being posted on the City Facebook page and website.
2. Census Update: Currently St. Clair has the lowest response rate in Blue Earth County with only 23% of St. Clair residents having responded. Census information is posted on the City Facebook page and website urging residents to complete the 2020 Census.
3. Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 13-17.
4. Blue Earth County Open Book meetings for St. Clair will be held April 20-24. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the meetings are expected to be conducted via phone or e-mail.
5. The City Wide Clean-Up Day scheduled for early May has been postponed. LJP Waste and Recycle plans to schedule a Fall Clean-Up Day.
6. Cemetery mowing (McPherson-Union and St. John's on Willow Lane) for 2020 was discussed. Clerk-Treasurer Seys has been in contact with Gary Owens who did the mowing in 2018 and 2019 he has indicated that the annual price for mowing the two (2) cemeteries would increase by \$100.00 for the 2020 mowing season, bringing the total to \$3,200.00. The mowing cost is shared equally between the City of St. Clair and McPherson Township. Motion by Council Member Glamm, seconded by Council Member Arndt to continue with Gary Owens for mowing of the cemeteries for the 2020 mowing season. Motion carried with all in favor.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. No Council Member attended the March 23rd School Board meeting.
2. The City of Eagle Lake hosted the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks meeting on March 12th. The speaker for the evening was Abdi Sabrie, Mankato School Board member and Eagle Lake resident. Mr. Sabrie discussed trips he has taken through a grant program which enabled him to meet with various leaders in public education. The next meeting of the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks has been cancelled.

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

ADJOURNMENT – The video conference meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Glamm seconded by Council Member Arndt and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer