

KASSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2016

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular City Council meeting was held at City Hall on the 23rd day of March, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Borgstrom, Buck, Egger, Johnson and Coleman.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE ABSENT: None

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Linda Rappe, City Administrator Theresa Coleman, City Engineer Brandon Theobald, Finance Director Nancy Zaworski, Economic Development Director Mike Martin, City Attorneys Leth and Woessner, Chris McKern

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA:

Remove E.1 Library Building Report

Motion to Approve the Agenda made by Councilperson Borgstrom, seconded by Councilperson Buck with all voting Aye.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approve the March 9, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Approve the Claims processed after the March 9, 2016 regular meeting, as audited for payment in the amount of \$483,640.08.

Acknowledgement of Committee and Meeting Minutes:

Park Board Minutes 2-16-16

EDA Minutes 2-9-16

Library Board Minutes 1-12-16

Library Board Minutes 2-9-16

Conferences:

Theresa Coleman	LMC Annual Conf.	St. Paul, MN	June 14-17
Mike Martin	LMC Annual Conf.	St. Paul, MN	June 14-17
Linda Rappe	Advanced Academy	Bloomington, MN	Sept 8-9

Evaluations:

Ron Unger	Park and Rec Director	Grade 13 Step 7	at top of scale
Mike Ness	Streets/Public Works	Grade 7 Step 7	at top of scale
Corey Carstensen 2-4-16	Parks/public Works	Grade 7 Step 4	increase to Step 5 \$22.29 eff.

Pay estimates:

Est. #2 Division 16	Nietz Electric	\$39,900.00
Est. #7 Division 1	Custom Construction/Design	\$10,590.60
Est. #4 Division 13	Custom Construction/Design	\$59,379.75
	Construction Management Final Custom Const/D	\$ 7,665.00

Motion by Councilperson Egglar and second by Councilperson Buck, with all voting Aye, to approve the consent agenda.

VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL – Chris McKern – Festival in the Park Report – The Festival in the Park will be August 12-14. The Festival Committee was approached by the fire department to combine resources regarding the Festival dance and the Firemen’s dance and to hold it at the park. The Mayor stated that this decision needs to go through the Council and that he is not in favor of moving the Firemen’s dance to the Park. Businesses downtown such as Pete’s Repeat and the Legion would lose business if the dance were moved to the park. There would be too much noise for the residents and assisted living facility next to the park, and he likes the location of the dance at the fire hall with the Police Department next door. Mr. McKern asked the Mayor if he would like to have a meeting to discuss this. Mr. McKern stated that it made sense to pool resources and it didn’t matter to the Festival Committee because they are having their stuff going on there anyway. The Mayor would like more information and have a written sheet of items for discussion. Councilperson Borgstrom stated that there are a lot of issues such as; liquor licensing, fencing, insurance, manpower and who would take the gates need to be addressed before we move a dance to the park. Mr. McKern stated that moving the dance was the biggest change, everything else is still pretty much the same. The Mayor would like to coordinate the parade with streets that may be getting repaired.

PUBLIC FORUM

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

Water/Wastewater Operations – Councilperson Egglar wanted to know how the City was going to handle the water/wastewater operations. The Mayor stated that we will continue the way we are going with Charlie Bradford doing it. The Mayor stated that he has spoken to the head person, Mark Schmitt at Pollution Control, and as long as we have someone there three days a week for two hours, we are fine and are in full compliance. Councilperson Egglar passed out a letter from the Mayor to Mark Schmitt, which he received from Mark Schmitt. Councilperson Egglar stated that he didn’t know we had done this. Administrator Coleman stated that she had contacted Mr. Schmitt and he had given us 30 days to come up with a plan and the Mayor had gotten some additional information from a resource at MPCA and asked her to put together the letter to Mr. Schmitt. Councilperson Egglar stated that Kasson is a weak Mayor council and these decisions need to be made by the Council as a whole. Councilperson Egglar stated that one person cannot be making these decisions. Councilperson Borgstrom questioned Councilperson Egglar’s motivation to contact Mr. Schmitt. Councilperson Egglar stated he was concerned that the City would be in violation of the MPCA. This plan/decision was made without the Council’s knowledge and the position of Water/Wastewater Supervisor is a union position. He wanted

to make sure the City would not get into union trouble. Councilperson Borgstrom stated that protocol would be to go to the City Administrator for answers. Councilperson Egger stated that he did go to the City Administrator and she told him that she had been instructed not to talk about it. The Mayor stated that he did try to contact Councilperson Egger but he did not return his call. Councilperson Egger stated that he forgot. The Mayor stated that this will be put on the next agenda for more discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Highway 14 Partnership – Community Development Director Martin stated the Highway 14 Partnership is a lobbying group to get highway 14 as four lanes from the South Dakota to Winona. The membership dues are due and the City Administrator asked him to bring this forward to see if the Council would still want to be a member. The dues are \$1000, this organization has a very worthwhile purpose. **Motion to approve the membership made by Councilperson Borgstrom, second by Councilperson Buck with all voting Aye.**

PFA Bonding Bill Request – Director Martin stated that the Governor has proposed increased funding in the Bonding Bill for PFA (Public Facilities Authority). PFA officials have stated that if this money is approved, they would use it to lower the points threshold for communities to receive grants. Martin stated that the most property tax poor communities get the grants first and, since we are not as needy as other smaller communities, the additional funds give cities like Kasson a better chance of getting grants. Director Martin would like to know if the Council would like him to join the lobbying effort, there is no cost involved. Martin stated that the legislators like to see elected officials and will ask our council people if they could come to the Capitol with him at times.

Infrastructure Financing Method – Director Martin stated that the Council has formed a consensus of street projects to be worked on this year, and he would like to know what financing method the council would like to use. Director Martin stated that there are three kinds of financing; petition and waiver, Chapter 429 and referendum. The Council consensus is to use Chapter 429 with a petition and waiver.

Director Martin would like the Council to appoint one person in charge of his project. Director Martin stated that there are four people who will be involved in the project and could be the lead. There is no doubt that all will work together but one person needs to take charge. Council consensus is Martin will be the point person.

Park Shelter – Councilperson Coleman stated the shelter on the west side of north park is in need of replacing. Park and Recreation Director Ron Unger requested bids for the building, concrete and electric. The Park Board has recommended Cleary Buildings to build the building, Stone by Stone to do the cement work and Leth Electric to do the electrical work. This would be a 30' x 56' structure and will be over budget a little. Mr. Unger is confident he can make adjustments in his budget to cover the overage. Councilperson Borgstrom stated that he has not seen a plan or spec sheet. Councilperson Borgstrom stated he just received the bid from Maxson Electric today and the bids are not apples to apples. Councilperson Borgstrom would like to table this until the next meeting. Councilperson Borgstrom would also like more concrete bids and is adamant about staying within budget and if this has to wait until next year, then it will.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Councilperson Coleman stated that “Just Pick It Up” city cleanup is April 30 at 8AM and to meet at City Hall if you would like to participate.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Coleman stated that as part of our power purchase with CMPAS we will be going out to auction for some of our energy. Administrator Coleman will come back with an update as to how we came out.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

City Attorney Leth stated that they have been asked about how to proceed with a citizen’s water leak, and that they have advised the Administrator on this matter.

The Attorney has also been asked to review the City’s Zoning Ordinance regarding a proposed use in the City’s Commercial-Manufacturing district. They rendered an opinion that the EDA’s interpretation was correct and that the proposed use would not be permitted.

They have been asked to investigate an alleged violation of the City’s Mutual Respect Policy and that investigation is underway.

PERSONNEL

CORRESPONDENCE

Fire Department Activity Report for February 2016

Nancy Zaworski MMC Certification – The Mayor congratulated the Finance Director on her certification.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 P.M.

ATTEST:

Linda Rappe, City Clerk

Steve Johnson, Mayor