

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE DASSEL CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 18, 2016, 7:00 P.M.
DASSEL CITY HALL**

The regular meeting of the Dassel City council was called to order by Mayor Putnam at 7:00 p.m. on April 18, 2016 at the Dassel City Hall.

Mayor Putnam led the opening Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Asplin, Bjork, Hungerford, Nelson, and Mayor Putnam (5)

Absent: (0)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to approve the March 28, 2016 Special Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Meeker County Sheriff Brian Cruze presented the 2015 annual report. He stated that Meeker County was #25 on the drunk driving list and that they would be cracking down on drunk drivers this year. He also presented his plan on dealing with drug enforcement, traffic control and felonies.

ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO THE AGENDA

Add 8F3-Purchase plow truck; 8A2-Public hearing, street vacation request; 8A3-Chamber update.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Hungerford to approve the addition of the 3 items listed above to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Thirsty's Tavern Wine & Strong Beer License renewal application (effective 7/1/16) pending the receipt of all required paperwork.
- B. Approve Casey's 3-2 Malt Liquor License renewal application (effective 7/1/16) pending the receipt of all required paperwork.
- C. Approve Cokato Dassel Lion's Club 3.2 Malt Liquor License application (effective 5/1 – 9/1/16) pending the receipt of all required paperwork.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to approve consent agenda items A-C listed above as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPORTS

The council reviewed the EDA Regular Meeting minutes of the March 3, 2016 meeting.

Mayor Putnam provided an update on the Summit Hills legislation and the Senate hearing that he and Clerk Boese had attended.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer

Clerk Boese reminded residents that the city wide garage sale will be the weekend of May 13th and everyone is invited to participate. The city wide cleanup will be held May 21, 2016. This year in addition to services already provided the city will have a paper shredding service at no cost for residents at the liquor store parking lot from 9am-noon.

The council approved seeking bids on residential waste and recycling services. The current Waste Management contract will expire on 12/31/16.

Boese updated the council on the recent Chamber meeting she attended. The remaining board member and member at large made the decision to mothball the chamber until such time a business(es) step up and decide to restart the chamber. They appointed Clerk Boese to maintain the checking accounts for the Chamber and Farmers Market and to provide safe keeping of the existing records. Red Rooster Treasurer, Doug Pierce will be responsible for filling all necessary tax forms on behalf of the Chamber, Farmers Market and Red Rooster.

The council set a Public Hearing on May 16, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of public input on the street vacation request submitted by Miller Manufacturing.

City Attorney

Attorney Greenly submitted the updated land lease for council review. He suggested that a first right of refusal to renew be added and if the current tenant did not renew the lease then it would be made available for public bid.

Motion by Asplin, seconded by Bjork to approve the updated irrigation land lease form as presented. Motion carried with Nelson abstaining.

Fire Chief

Chief Johnson reported that the department had responded to 53 calls, 2 of which were in Dassel. He reported that the department had decided not to roll the relief monies in the MN Public Employees Retirement Association at this time. They have applied for a DNR equipment grant. Johnson announced the department will be hosting a French Toast Breakfast fund raiser on May 22nd at the fire hall.

Council member Nelson thanked the department members for their dedication and service.

Liquor Store Manager

Manager Vetsch presented the March, 2016 monthly liquor store report which showed gross sales of \$79,985.17 an increase over last year of 14%. He informed the council that he had approved a texting app for the store and it should be set up by the end of the week. Clerk Moy will be attending the MMBA conference on behalf of Vetsch this year. Vetsch also requested authorization to hire additional help for the summer.

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Museum Director

Director Holje reported on the upcoming Woodworking exhibit, "Wood You Believe It?" She also reported that 19 businesses have donated to the flower pot project. Holje recently attended an League of MN Cities meeting and informed the council there may be funding available for the Seed Elevator building project through the Historical Society. She will continue to pursue this opportunity.

Public Works Director

Director Scepaniak reported that he had recently attended the MN Rural Water Operators conference. Street sweeping was completed and the influent control valve on filter #1 was rebuilt. Soil samples were taken in preparation for irrigation season and the plow trucks were cleaned up for the summer season. Scepaniak also reported that the Consumer Confidence report had been completed and showed no issues. The report will be published in the newspaper.

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to authorize the purchase of a 2002 Sterling L7501 plow truck from Boyer Ford in the amount of \$49,000, which will replace the 1985 Sterling plow truck. Director Scepaniak was directed to sell the 1985 Sterling to the highest bidder or trade it in to Boyer Ford if he could not find a buyer for it. Cost of the truck to be allocated between the budgeted amount in fund 101 and balance to be paid from fund account 605. Motion carried unanimously.

City Engineer

The council reviewed the concerns addressed by Engineer DeWolf in regard to the street vacation request by Miller Manufacturing. It was agreed that additional discussion is needed before granting the vacation request. Clerk Boese, Director Scepaniak, Attorney Greenley and DeWolf will meet to discuss conditions which need to be met prior to approval of the vacation.

DeWolf provided an update on the William Ave and Marcia Street projects. They have sent out bid notifications on the 2 projects.

Sheriff's Office

Deputy Bondhus presented the March, 2016 police report which showed 73 calls for the month. He informed the council that the majority of calls are animal complaint related. The Sheriff's office also received a complaint about city residents trapping feral cats. He updated the council on the recent threat made to the DC School.

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

Motion by Nelson, seconded by Asplin to approve payment of claims in the amount of \$380,348.92 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

The council reviewed the proposed savings estimate from Geronimo Energy Solar Garden project and agreed to move forward with the agreement. Attorney Greenley will review the agreement and present his opinion at the next meeting.

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NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Putnam reported that the Personnel Committee will meet prior to the next council meeting to discuss some personnel policy clarifications.

The council authorized Clerk Boese to research available properties for relocating the skating rink and the possibility of adding pickle ball courts adjacent to the rink.

Motion by Bjork, seconded by Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Jeffrey Putnam
Mayor

Terri Boese
Clerk/Treasurer