

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE DASSEL CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 17, 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 October 17, 2016 at the Dassel City Hall.

Mayor Putnam led the opening Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Asplin, Bjork, and Mayor Putnam (3)

Absent: Council members Hungerford and Nelson (2)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bjork, seconded by Asplin to approve the September 19, 2016 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Tim Benoit, Dassel Representative to the Meeker County EDA Board introduced himself and asked the council members to contact him if there was anything he could do for the city as the new representative on the board.

Jon Beseman of Waste Management introduced himself as the new city representative and asked the council if they had received any comments about the services provided during Red Rooster Days and the Fire Department's pancake feed. He also stated William Cronk had been awarded a \$500 scholarship in 2016 as part of Waste Management's scholarship award program.

ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO THE AGENDA

Motion by Asplin, seconded by Bjork to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Putnam introduced David Krueger, the Executive Director, Meeker Development Corporation. Krueger provided an overview of the Meeker County Housing Study Report that was included in the agenda packet. He noted that Community Partners Research, Inc. had compiled the data for the study. He summarized the following:

- Demographic and income data
- Projection data – Dassel is expected to grow in the next 2-5 years
- Existing housing data
- Rental housing inventory
- Employment and local economic trends analysis
- Finding and recommendations
 - Home ownership recommendations
 - Rental housing recommendations
 - Housing rehabilitation and other issues.

Mayor Putnam provided an update the outdoor hockey rink location. He stated they are working on a price for a possible new location for the hockey rink.

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Mayor Putnam reported that they will be interview three candidates next week for the Public Works Director position.

Council member Bjork provided an update on the Architectural Committee meeting that met October 11, 2016.

Kyle Ackerman provided an update on the EDA that met September 2, 2016. He stated they are trying to maintain is that the challenges and successes of local businesses are known. He said they are currently working with Thirsty's Tavern to bring an Elk Feed to town in November. He noted that the dance studio building is for sale. He added the 12 & 15 Storage is becoming more active. He said they are working on redoing the City's website to add property information for reviewing. He said he would like to see three new dining establishments be developed by the end of 2018.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clerk/Treasurer

Boese reported that she had received notice from Xcel Energy that they will replacing the existing cobra head street lights with new LED technology through 2018.

Boese met with Vivid Image the city's website provider to review the current website and upgrades that Vivid is requiring. The estimated cost of the upgrades is between \$6-8,000. Boese recommended that the upgrade be postponed until additional bid(s) are received with no further action until 2017.

Motion by Asplin, seconded by Bjork to approve the purchase of new accounting/payroll/utility billing software from USTI/Asyst in the amount of \$11,745.00 from account 500-41000-500. Motion carried unanimously.

Boese attended the following meetings during the previous month: Discover Dassel; Vivid Image Website Training; Historical Society Board Meeting; Summit Hills Tax Forfeit Land Aucon-Meeker County; 2017 Small Group Insurance Updates webinar; Hockey Rink relocation meeting with property owner; Personnel Committee meeting to review PW Director job apps; Monthly Department Head Meeting; EDA Meeting; Joint Meeting with City of Cokato; Architectural Committee Meeting; and DC Trail Board Meeting.

Upcoming meetings include: Summit Hills Owners Association Meeting, Thursday, October 20, 6:00 p.m. at the History Center; Architectural Committee Meeting, Thursday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the History Center; General Election on Tuesday, November 8th from 7 am – 8 pm; and Fire Advisory Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

Fire Chief

Chief Johnson reported the Fire Department has responded to a total of 202 calls for the year of which 75 have been in the City of Dassel. Johnson thanked the public for their support at the pork chop dinner. It was a sold out event. He stated the department is still looking for new members, they are currently at 24 and would like to get to a full staff of 30.

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Liquor Store Manager

Manager Vetsch presented the September, 2016 monthly report which showed gross sales of \$100,484.19, an increase of 3% over the same period last year. They are planning for the holidays with changes in displays and focusing on products for the season.

Museum Director

The council reviewed the monthly Director's report. Council member Asplin stated that she thoroughly enjoyed the Hidden in Plain View program. The Art Tour will be from 10 am-5 pm on October 22nd.

Public Works Director

Mayor Putnam provided an update. He noted that streets were being swept and hydrants had been flushed the previous week. He reminded the public that it's against City ordinance to put leaves and grass in the street.

Sheriff's Office

Deputy Bondhus presented the monthly Sheriff's department report which showed a total of 95 calls in September. He also reminded residents to lock their vehicles, garages and homes as there have been a number of thefts recently. Bondhus stated they have numerous lost and found items and asked the public to check with them to reclaim the items.

CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT

Motion by Bjork, seconded by Asplin to approve payment of claims in the amount of \$140,465.19 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Putnam reported on the recent DC Trail Committee Board meeting and thanked Dassel Township for agreeing to participate in the MOU and contributing \$5,000 for trail maintenance this year.

Larry Oberg thanked the council for their support at Red Rooster Days, specifically all the help that was provided to make the Grande Day Parade a success. He also thanked city staff for their assistance for the weekend long event.

NEW BUSINESS

The council recessed the meeting at 7:55 p.m. and reconvened at 8:03 p.m.

The meeting was closed at 8:04 p.m. to conduct Liquor Store Manager Vetsch's annual review.

The meeting was reopened at 8:26 p.m. and Mayor Putnam announced that Vetsch had successfully completed his annual review.

Motion by Bjork, seconded by Asplin to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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ATTEST:

Jeff Putnam
Mayor

Terri Boese
Clerk/Treasurer