

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE DASSEL CITY COUNCIL  
OCTOBER 19, 2015, 7:03 P.M.  
DASSEL CITY HALL**

The regular meeting of the Dassel City council was called to order by Mayor Putnam at 7:03 p.m. on October 19, 2015 at the Dassel City Hall.

Mayor Putnam led the opening Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Asplin, Bjork, Nelson, Hungerford and Mayor Putnam (5)  
Absent: (0)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Hungerford to approve the September 15 Public Hearings (2) and Regular Meeting; and October 5, 2015 Special Meeting minutes as presented with two corrections noted. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN FORUM**

None

**ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Add item 8A6-421 Parker Ave, hazardous structure

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to approve one addition to the agenda listed above. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve \$1,460 contribution to Meeker County for the 2016 county-wide Housing Study.

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to approve Consent Agenda Item A presented above. Motion carried unanimously.**

**COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The council reviewed the August 5, 2015 and September 3, 2015 EDA Board regular meeting minutes.

Mayor Putnam reported that at the last Cokato/Dassel Trail Board meeting the final draft of the By-laws was presented, however they lacked a quorum of Board members so approval was not acted upon.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Clerk/Treasurer

**Motion by Asplin, seconded by Nelson to authorize the Negotiating Committee to request re-opening the AFSCME Union Contract to negotiate wage increases for 2016 and reduce the custodial hours for the 2016 budget from 14 hours per week to 6 hours per week. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Clerk Boese presented the volunteer survey results and informed the Council that she had been chosen to present the findings statewide via webinar on behalf of MAVVA. The webinar is 'Strategy for Cities on Successful Volunteer Engagement'. The City will also receive \$100 for her participation as a presenter.

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Hungerford to designate the \$11,327 received from the State of MN for Small Cities Assistance to roads and streets projects completed this year including: chip sealing – Mid MN Hot Mix \$6,388; sand & gravel – Meeker County \$828.71; painting crosswalks – C & C Contracting \$3,000; and con-bit mix – Nordberg Excavating \$800. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Asplin to authorize Director Scepaniak to post 'No truck traffic' signs on Centennial Avenue and direct Clerk Boese to contact the semi/truck trailer owners who are currently parking there. Drivers will be informed of alternate parking locations. Motion carried unanimously.**

Boese reported she had received a request to install an emergency warning siren in the Sellard's area. The residents are not able to hear the siren that is located at the Fire Hall. Boese contacted Meeker County Emergency Management staff regarding the request. It may be possible to include the installation of a siren in the proposed Hazard Mitigation Plan which is currently being reviewed by Homeland Security. If approved the city council apply for grant monies to install the siren on the water tower at TH 12 and CSAH 15.

**Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bjork to authorize Clerk Boese to work with the city attorney on complaints received on a hazardous residential building located at 421 Parker Ave. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Chief**

Chief Johnson thanked Matt Daughy, who recently resigned, for his 4 years of service on the department. He also reported the department served approximately 500 people at their pork chop dinner fund raiser. The department had a total of 17 calls in the past month of which 6 were in the City of Dassel.

**Liquor Store Manager**

Liquor Store Manager Vetsch reported that the September, 2015 report showed total gross sales of \$97,853.38, which is an increase in sales of 17% from last year. Liftcon has completed raising the sidewalks in front of the liquor store.

**Museum Director**

Director Holje presented information on the upcoming events: Art Crawl, the Taste of Dassel, and Dazzled in Dassel.

**Public Works Director**

Director Scepaniak requested residents with black walnut trees to pick up the walnuts that fall into the street as they are causing issues street sweeping. He reported the following: pot holes

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have been filled; the 2 little library structures have been installed; all fire hydrants have been flushed, serviced and will be painted; the concrete debris has been removed from the ball park; and 2.6 M gallons of effluent have been applied to the spray irrigation fields.

Scepaniak asked the council to consider offering an early retirement option again next year. No action was taken at this time.

**Sheriff's Office**

The council reviewed the August, 2015 monthly report which showed 77 calls. Council member Asplin requested Deputy Holtz review the need for coverage at the TH 12 pedestrian crossing area with the city deputies. Asplin has witnessed several motorists who have ignored the flashing lights when pedestrians are crossing the highway.

**CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT**

**Motion by Bjork, seconded by Asplin to approve payment of claims in the amount of \$158,976.35 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

The council reviewed a request to adopt a resolution in support of reopening the Appleton Prison from Swift County Administrator. City Attorney Greenley discussed the request with the council and recommended that no action be taken at this time on the resolution.

**Motion by Asplin, seconded by Bjork to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.**

ATTEST:

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Jeffrey Putnam  
Mayor

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Terri Boese  
Clerk/Treasurer