

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018  
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation off the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Carol Atkins with Council Members Steve Burns, Dean Fischer, Rachel Ingebretson and Carole Remiger in attendance.

Also in attendance were Dan Ritter, Pat Eichten, Matt Gross, Mike Remiger, Paul Plaetz, and Mary Smith.

The agenda was approved with the addition of 1 land use permit to the consent agenda, on a motion by Burns, seconded by Ingebretson.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The first order of business was to canvas election results. The City of Wabasso had one person running for Mayor, Carol Atkins, who, with 283 votes was duly elected Mayor for a second term. With no one having filed for two open City Council positions, the following write in candidates had the most votes: Steve Burns with 40 votes, Wade McKittrick with 30 votes, Dean Fischer with 25 votes, Brandon Salfer with 12 votes and 38 individuals each with three or fewer votes. The canvas of election results was accepted as presented on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Fischer.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Dan Ritter appeared before the council to present a proposal for garbage service that would see no increase in cart or bag prices and a \$.20 decrease in the drive by fee for bag users. Matt Novak explained to the council that beginning January 1, there will be changes in current law that will require any new contract to be for 7 years, but a renewal can be for 3 years. The Council approved a 6 year contract with Southwest Sanitation on a motion by Burns, seconded by Fischer.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The City Council is interested in continuing the contract with the Redwood County Sheriff's Office. The City Clerk was instructed to request the contract be sent for council review.

The EDA update was presented by Pat Eichten. The board approved a loan to Mid County Ag Services LLC in the amount of \$25,000.00 for 10 years at 3%. A motion was made to accept the EDA recommendation to provide the loan by Burns, seconded by Fischer.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

A letter has been sent by Matt Novak to the two month's past due RLF loan. The EDA board is still working on the option for Serenity Suites.

The Street Report was presented by Mike Remiger. A discussion of possibly hauling snow off of the small parking lot at the school took place. The council decided they would approve a \$75 per hour, one hour minimum charge to assist with snow removal from taxpayer supported entities only. A penalty will be established for properties that push all of the snow from their parking lots into the street for the city to remove.

A special informational meeting will be held to discuss a proposal to repair an issue with storm sewer access and drainage improvement in an area between County Highway 6 and Maple Street. The surrounding affected neighbors will be invited by letter to attend.

The Council approved hiring Bolton & Menk to prepare a preliminary engineering report for sewer line rehabilitation, to be submitted to USDA Rural Development for the purpose of finding funding, at a cost of \$14,000.00. A motion to approve the expenditure was made by Burns, seconded by Fischer.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Fischer:

1. Minutes of October 8 meeting
2. Land use Permits
  - a. 578 South Street Deck
  - b. 182 State Hwy 68 Commercial Building
3. Beer in the Community Center
  - a. Winterfest December 7, 2018
4. Resolution Accepting Donations to the Wabasso Ambulance Association

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Dean Fischer stated he and Joe Kemp will go back out to the athletic field to check to make sure things are cleaned up and put away. The plan is to seed a portion of the football field in the spring where it is in bad shape. Cement for the aluminum bleachers is being looked into. The possibility of refurbishing an area for track was brought up. All the trees at the baseball field have been planted. This includes 12 spruce, 8 shade trees and the tree for Bean Bernardy is right near the front of the baseball field area. The school would like to look at the possibility of a driving range again in the spring. There will most likely be a town baseball team next year. Mike suggested building a box scraper if time permits this winter for use at the athletic field.

An issue with parking on June Street has risen again. The city is looking at banning parking on certain days on the North side of the street by Jonti-Craft.

The agreement for use of the round tables from the community center was approved as presented on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Burns.

Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

An amendment to the nuisance ordinance specifying how the compost site violations will be handled was approved on a motion by Fischer, seconded by Ingebretson.  
Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The bill for repairing the street by the school after construction was complete will be going to court in January.

The December meeting has been moved to Tuesday, December 11 at 6 pm. This is the meeting at which the 2019 budget and levy can be discussed with the City Council at the beginning of the meeting.

Mary Smith approached the council about having a portion of the compensatory time she has accumulated paid to her. This time was earned in place of paid overtime. This led to a discussion regarding the policies for comp time, paid overtime and vacation time. Council Member Remiger asked why Smith was receiving comp time rather than the overtime being paid out each month. Smith explained she had agreed to the comp time at the time she was hired at the request of the council. When asked, Smith also indicated a willingness to change from comp time to having any overtime paid out on a monthly basis. The council agreed to her request and asked to have the policies added to the December agenda for further discussion.

The correspondence was reviewed.

Bills in the amount of \$52,604.20 were approved for payment on a motion by Fischer, seconded by Burns.  
Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.