

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Tuesday, December 11, 2018  
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation of 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 present were Tony Kramer, Pat Eichten, Matt Novak, Paul Plaetz, Mike Remiger and Mary Smith.

The agenda was approved with 2 additions on a motion by Fischer, seconded by Remiger. Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, Fischer-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The 2019 Budget and Final Levy were approved with the following amounts: General Fund Budget \$550,829.00 and levy of \$292,020.00; Water Fund Budget \$135,475.00 no levy; Sewer Fund Budget \$169,271.00 no levy; Garbage Fund \$30,000.00 no levy; Ambulance Budget \$107,350.00 no levy; Fire Fund Budget \$44,700.00 no levy; Library Fund Budget \$97,011.00 no levy; Cemetery Budget \$1,600.00 with no levy; Combined Debt Service Budgets \$359,825.00 and levy of \$136,243.00. The levy increase for the General and Debt Service levies is approximately 12.6% over the 2018 budget. The largest increase came in the debt service levies in the amount of \$46,793.00 of which the May Street project tax abatement bonds amounts to \$36,692.00. A motion was made by Burns, seconded by Ingebretson to approve the budget and overall levy.

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

Tony Kramer appeared before the council to discuss baseball association activities. The association decided to sell the metro dome seats they had purchased and sold them for the same amount they were purchased for. There is an effort underway at this time to try to form a town team. Cory Theis is working to pull together a team. There is a league that they could join if a team is formed. The council is in favor of this. The association will need to work out the scheduling of the field with other users.

Matt Novak presented a check to the city in the amount of \$50,000.00 for the sale of the property at the southeast corner of town to Mid County Ag Services. After some discussion a motion was made by Burns, seconded by Fischer for the city to give the \$50,000.00 to the EDA to be set aside for a project benefiting the community.

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

Matt Novak presented a Resolution Relating to The Removal of Snow. The resolution clarifies the removal of snow from parking lots and from sidewalks into the street that requires the snow be removed by city employees can result in a charge of \$150.00 per hour to the property

owner with a one hour minimum charge. It also clarifies that the city may remove snow under a contract for public entities if there can be found a public purpose to do so.

Resolution allowing city to contract to haul snow out from a parking lot if there is a public purpose such as providing access for the public was approved on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Remiger.

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

Those in attendance at a meeting to discuss fixing the storm sewer that is located between North Street and Main Street, bordered by County Highway 6 and Maple Street indicated a preference for the city to do the work. Matt Novak stated he would look into the procedures required to allow for the assessment of costs to the effected homeowners if needed.

A resolution requiring the use of garbage can provided by Southwest Sanitation and discontinuing the use of bags by February 1, 2019 was approved on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Fischer.

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

The Redwood County Attorney is offering a contract for prosecution of criminal matters at the rate of \$150.00 per hour. Matt Novak made a counter offer to handle those prosecutions at a discounted rate to the city of \$85.00 per hour. The council approved hiring Matt Novak to handle the criminal prosecutions for Wabasso at the stated rate was made by Ingebretson, seconded by Fischer.

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

Pat Eichten gave an update on the EDA. The board is looking into what it would cost to remove the house on the Nelson property. After that, the board will need to decide if they want to make an offer. Platting the land on May Street hinges on determining an option for Serenity Suites senior living to purchase the property next to their facility for possible future expansion and the board's approval of an option. The EDA is looking into updated software for the amortization of the loans to make them easier to track.

Mike Remiger presented the Street Report for the month. There are 276 lights left to do in the community center. The complaint of parking issues on June Street has resolved itself. If the issue is raised again, the Clerk is to invite those living along the 2 blocks of the street to a meeting by letter so they can be informed of the options the city has available to do anything.

Paul Plaetz presented the Water/Wastewater Report. The wells have been redone now. Number 1 well is back to almost the same as new, while the number 2 well is able to pump at an acceptable level. One motor on a pump was shot so it was taken care of right away. A building here in town that has two meters can go down to just one. The problem with a meter that was not reading properly has been determined and it should be correct now.

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

1. Minutes of the November 13 meeting

2. Beer in the Community Center
  - a. Family Event December 15
  - b. Family Christmas December 25
  - c. Family Christmas December 29
3. Resolution Designating Polling Place
4. Resolution Accepting Ambulance Donation
5. Kinner & Company Audit proposal

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

The e-mail regarding the athletic field was reviewed. Because of a state grant received in the past it is required the land be continued to be used as recreational property for public use in perpetuity.

A discussion was held regarding the clerk's comp time and also the personnel policy sections on vacation and sick time. The clerk will try to use up as much of the comp time by the end of the year by taking off when Julie is in the office. The rest is to be paid out. Beginning in January the clerk will continue to use any extra time to take time off whenever possible to keep the city from having to pay overtime. For the future, the city needs to look at better definition of the vacation and sick time policy. Matt Novak will work some ideas.

The contract with the Redwood County Sheriff's Office was approved on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Fischer.

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

The City Council does not waive the monetary limits in on tort liability established by MN Statute 466.04 on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Fischer.

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

Bills in the amount of \$25,907.44 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 pm.