

City of Wabasso
City Council
Monday, March 11, 2019
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation off the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Atkins called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Burns, Wade McKittrick, Rachel Ingebretson and Carole Remiger present.

Also present were Janelle Baune, Tiffany Eichten, Cory Jenson, Pat Eichten, Paul Plaetz and Mike Remiger. Mary Smith was unable to attend.

Agenda was approved after several additions on a motion by Berg, second by Remiger. Atkins-yes, Burns-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The Softball Association was represented at the meeting by Tiffany Eichten and Cory Jenson. The first thing she brought up was to ask about being allowed to advertise in the outfield like the baseball association does. Cory Jenson explained ads would be a way to raise funds for the softball association. A motion by Burns, seconded by Ingebretson approved the advertising for the softball association.

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

The next item asked about was removing snow from the softball field so they can play on it. It has been done by other places. You can't put any heavy equipment on there to take it off as the ground is soft under the snow. Don't want the field wrecked in the process. Can they at least shovel some of it off to help for drying? There is not much frost in the ground under the snow. They can try with skid loaders with tracks, but if it tears up the field then need to let nature do its work.

Trying to get the fields ready for games has been really hectic. Will there be someone to have a joint position for field prep. No decision has been made yet. This is on the agenda. Question was asked if the signs owned by the softball association would be covered by City insurance. The City will check with our insurance agent.

The Commercial Club is discussing having a website designed. Would cost \$10,000.00, and were wondering if the city would be interested in working with them. First of all is there interest. They are looking for a split between the city and commercial club for costs. The city will look into this.

Janelle Baune was there to explain they have a \$93.29 bill for a dumpster that was only partially full. The city will provide another dumpster so they can get rid of the stuff they still have. They will pay the bill they have and not be charged extra for the second dumpster.

Matt Novak. Waiver for assessments for storm sewer work to be done on Frericks property. The waiver would be sent to property owners to waive the assessment process and allow us to go ahead with the assessment. The city could still choose not to do the work and it would be up to the property owners to fix if not everyone signs the waivers. A motion was made by McKittrick and seconded by Remiger to send out the waivers with the 100% of the incurred cost minus the city contribution to the project.

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

Pat Eichten gave an update on the EDA. The meeting was short. He is waiting for a summary of the option for Serenity Suites to send to the board. Will have to try to contact Frank Ourada to be able to get into house and determine if there is asbestos to figure out what it would cost to take down. Pretty up to date on the loans. RADC membership has been taken care of for another year. They help put together loan information.

Paul Plaetz gave an update on the Water/Wastewater. The city does not normally give a break on water that has gone through meter even if it is for a leak. Last week went to water school. He wants to go to the waste water training. May 13th scheduled for new knee an off for 6-8 weeks. Should he use comp time or sick time or what? Will need to have someone to do water and waste water stuff. If Lucan's guy could take readings and take sample then Paul can do paperwork once he's home. Can Paul look into have someone licensed for it? Use comp time then use sick time. Sump pumps are to be put out as of March 15 weather permitting.

The Street Report was presented by Mike Remiger. The new tractor the hydraulics aren't working, transmission is jumpy. They will be getting the city a skid loader to use for now. The city will be working on the catch basins tomorrow. Wade McKittrick complemented the guys on how well the streets have been kept. Ingebretson brought up the possibility of having list of people to call on for help with plowing/etc. when needed. In order to look at what to pay for part time help for snow removal the clerk was instructed to contact townships and other cities to determine what they pay.

Mike Remiger brought up everyone should have a contract if they will be using the community center. The local groups do not have to pay for the use, but contracts are needed for everything other than a meeting such as the EDA, City Council, or Legion, etc.

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by McKittrick:

1. Minutes of February 11 meeting
2. Land Use Permit
 - a. 151 state Highway 68 Shed/garage
3. Brian Baune dba Hwy 68 Off-Sale Annual License
4. Resolution 2019-2D Accepting donation to the Community Center from Vail Township

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

Mayor Atkins was asked to look into if the cable fees have been received in recent years.

The dumpster policy was reviewed. There should be a statement that the person using the dumpster has to sign. A calendar, spreadsheet or database showing who has requested one, when it was delivered and the date when it can be picked up. Ingebretson and McKittrick will meet with the clerk to get everything worked out.

The use of 10 round tables for prom on April 27 was approved on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Remiger.

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

A Hope Harbor organization requested a half price for an April 12th event. Motion to approve the half price by Burns, seconded by Ingebretson.

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

Spring/summer position for help with ball fields. Would we consider hiring someone for all of the events to prepare fields during summer? Hire for the summer programs for dragging, getting fields ready, pick up garbage, etc. Sounds like a good idea with Barb Johnson in charge of arranging.

Wade McKittrick. The school is looking at building an early learning center just west of the current building. It would be a 5,000 to 6,000 square feet. No financing for this project, so no tax impact. It would move the 3 year old, 4 year old, little rabbit program, after school program and ECFE program into the new building. The school is looking into this so possibly to be open by next year. There is a set amount the board is willing to put into the project and if it can be done for that, then they will proceed.

The Local Road Improvement Program grant applications were denied. What was submitted by the engineer was not the same as what the city wanted.

Barb Johnson is looking into applying for a safe routes to school grant for bike/walking paths.

Road closure for Roadhouse was approved on a motion by Remiger, seconded by McKittrick.

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

The city would pay for center one third of the alley behind the Roadhouse.

The heat for the Ambulance garage seems to be low. The Mayor will talk to the clerk.

Bills in the amount of \$16,947.35 were approved for payment on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Remiger.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

