

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
April 5, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kroll at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Kroll; Council Members Schulzetenberg, Reinert and Zenzen
Attorney Couri; Building Inspector Hageman; Clerk/Administrator
McCabe; Fire Department Chief Tabatt, Assistant Fire Chief Orth, Fire
Representatives Ben Voigt, Patrick Savage, Craig Cordie and Darryl
Stang; Public Works Employee Kiffmeyer and Water/Sewer Operator
Blashack. Council Member Diehl was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT:

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. McCabe indicated he added item 3H, his attendance at the annual League of Cities Conference.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as amended items 3A – 3F, by Mr. Reinert, second by Mr. Diehl. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, March 2, 2016.
City Council Agenda, April 5, 2016.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated
April 5, 2016 and for Checks #18657 -18739.
Gambling Permit, St. Augusta Sports Inc.
Gambling Permit, St. Wendelin Church
Temporary Liquor Licenses, St. Wendelin Church on April
30 and July 31.
Mr. McCabe's attendance at the annual League of Cities
Conference.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Captain Lentz presented the March Sheriff's report indicating there were 41 contract hours spent. He reviewed the citations along with the call types.

A motion was made to approve the sheriff's report by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Mr. Zenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S

REPORT:

Mr. Hageman was in attendance to present the March building inspector's report. He indicated thirteen permits were issued during the month, including two single family dwellings. He reviewed valuations and answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made to approve the building inspector's report as presented by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Mr. Zenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

ISSUES:

Chief Tabatt was in attendance and presented the February 2016 run report. He reviewed the calls and discussed the training that was done.

Mr. Voigt presented an operations committee update indicating they have looked into more local grant writers. He indicated they called three references for Praetorian Digital, all of which gave glowing references and none of which had been approved for a grant application. He stated the price was increased by waiting an additional month to a total of \$2,750. Mr. Reinert indicated Praetorian Digital was the best option he had looked at. Mr. McCabe wondered if the funding was in place for the next round of grants indicating he was told it was not currently being funded. Mayor Kroll asked where the need was as we had already indicated we wouldn't look into additional equipment until the fire hall was paid off. He also asked what the hurry was, as the existing equipment isn't in poor shape. Mr. Couri explained the timing is never ideal but the process takes time. Mr. Voigt requested approval to go through Praetorian Digital. Ms. Schulzetenberg indicated she didn't believe we are acting too soon, it is the proper time. Mr. Reinert asked when the process would start upon approval. Mr. Voigt responded by indicating he already has a contract and once that is signed, it will begin almost immediately.

A motion was made to approve the expense of \$2,750 for the grant writer of Praetorian Digital by Mr. Zenzen, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried 3-1 with Mayor Kroll voting no.

Mr. Tabatt indicated a grant is available for applying for a new six wheeler, the cost of writing would be taken on by the relief association. He explained why he believes the need is there for a new vehicle, probably with a track system. Department members explained further why they believe this grant opportunity is a good idea for the city. Mr. Couri stated the department is asking for permission to allow the relief association to pay a grant writer.

A motion was made to approve allowing the relief association to apply for the grant for the six wheeler by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Mr. Zenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Couri indicated there is a resolution that will be brought to a future meeting about insurance carriers and making sure a burned house is taken care of.

**PUBLIC WORKS
UPDATES:**

Mr. Kiffmeyer was in attendance and reported they have been cutting brush and will be changing over to summer equipment shortly. Sweeping will be scheduled shortly, based on approval. Pot holes will be filled in shortly. He stated he would like to add class 5 to some of the gravel roads. Mr. Reinert wondered about stump grinding and was told we typically rent a machine. There was discussion about wood chipping and Mr. McCabe was instructed to look into putting the wood chipper for sale. Mr. Kiffmeyer also indicated he would have the crack filling machine in May. Mayor Kroll stated we are going to later talk about adding some of the Country Square. There was a discussion about the cut across road and there was discussion about potentially vacating that street.

Mr. Blashack began by presenting a check list he made shortly after he started with his basic tasks. He reported he would be doing hydrant flushing and general hydrant maintenance. He explained he will be doing sewer main jetting in the fall with the help of the City of St. Joseph. He stated he has been focusing on lift station maintenance. He stated he would be assisting with the opening of the parks, with well disinfection. Mr. Blashack also discussed the inflow and infiltration issues with our sewer system and how it could be fixed but he will continue to monitor. He finished with explaining he general monthly tasks.

OPEN FORUM: No comments given.

**PERSONNEL
AMENDMENTS:**

Mr. McCabe presented amendments to the personnel policy relating to our vacation policy and pay days. He explained the changes were underlined.

A motion was made to approve the personnel policy amendments by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Mr. Zenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL MEMBER
PURVIEW:**

Mr. Reinert wondered about the meeting with Lynden Township. The day for the meeting could either be their next regular scheduled meeting or our next meeting. Mr. McCabe stated he let the City of St. Cloud know we plan on having this discussion at the same time he questioned 250th Street and hasn't gotten a response on either subject.

Mayor Kroll asked about the metals in the water in Lynden Township. Mr. Couri responded about they are concerned with it being from the sludge.

Mayor Kroll reported the APO executive director and another employee have both resigned and they will be looking for new employees.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented a quote for street sweeping indicating it is equal to last year's hourly quote and he stated last year we did 74 hours.

A motion was made to approve the street sweeping quote by Mayor Kroll, seconded by Mr. Reinert. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCabe presented a request for a raffle donation and consensus was to not participate.

Mr. McCabe indicated a newsletter would be coming out toward the end of the month and asked to have any items sent to him to be included.

Mr. McCabe indicated we haven't received any invoices for the background check on the Hayloft Bar and Grill liquor license and wondered if we should refund some of the fee. He was told we should refund half.

Mr. McCabe reported we have approximately \$600,000 to do a street project and wondered if we should look at doing a project this year. There was discussion on which road should be done (53rd Avenue, 23rd Avenue, Galaxy Road) and the consensus was to look into the cost of a portion of Galaxy Road for this year and plan to do a larger project next year. Mr. McCabe will contact the city engineer to see if he can get an estimate for the next meeting.

Mr. McCabe stated we also were going to add the older portion of Country Square to the seal coating, so long as we remain on budget.

Mr. McCabe indicated he had an offer to purchase our old pull behind grader and wondered if we wanted to consider due to the fact the tires won't hold air and we can't find replacements. He was told to look into the value and ask for an offer from the individual who expressed interest.

Mr. McCabe reported he was going to send a letter to Chris Sis about the storage containers asking that they be removed by June 1.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 9:16 pm by Mr. Reinert seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Meeting Adjourned.

Approved this _____ day of May, 2016.

BJ Kroll, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator