

Minutes

Braham City Council

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm with the following members Present: Mayor Carlson, Councilor Ethen, Councilor Kunshier, Councilor Sullivan and Councilor Knowles.

Absent: None

Also, present: City Administrator Angela Grafstrom, Police Chief Eric Baumgart, Utility Superintendent Dan Eklund, Liquor Store Manager Jacque Nordby, Loren Davis of Diversified Bronze, Les Mateffy of Moore Engineering, citizens Cory Schlotthauer and Adam Scott Zeis.

TNT

Mayor Carlson opened the truth in taxation meeting. She pointed out the county had provided a handout regarding the county budget. She read the following statement from Chad Struss, Isanti County Auditor-Treasurer: "We prefer taxpayers contact us directly with questions about the county portion of the tax bill. There is not any single factor leading to the county's proposed increase and it's easy for misunderstandings to occur. Taxpayers can contact Isanti County Finance Director Kelsey Lakeberg at 763-689-1644."

Council reviewed the proposed budget, levy and salary. There were no questions or concerns from those present. Mayor Carlson closed the Truth in Taxation meeting at 7:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Ethen moved to approve the minutes of 11/12/19 as written. Motion seconded by Councilor Kunshier and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Ethen noted that the date of the minutes was listed wrong on the agenda. It was listed as 10/1/19. Engineer Les Mateffy requested to be added to the agenda.

Motion made by Sullivan accepting the agenda with the correction of the minutes date to 11/12/19 and the addition of Engineer's Report by Les Mateffy. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

Council reviewed the bills totaling \$498,488.35 which includes check #40275 to #40401, electronic transfers and payroll in the amount of \$71,145.46.

Motion made by Councilor Ethen to approve the payment of the bills and payroll as presented. Motion seconded by Councilor Kunshier and carried unanimously.

BANKING TRANSACTIONS

Council reviewed the banking transactions.

Motion made by Councilor Sullivan to approve the banking transactions as presented. Motion seconded by Councilor Ethen and carried unanimously.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Baumgart reported the police dept is in the process of returning military issue weapons so they will no longer be responsible to report on them. A citizen asked what kind of weapons he was talking about. Baumgart responded stating 2 M16s, 1 M14, 2 45-caliber handguns. They were issued to the department by LESO-FIBMIS and do not actually belong to the department.

Clarify Detective's Use of Car

This was discussed as part of the 2020 budget and was considered part of the agreement to Retain Kevin Stahl as a Detective, but the city has been questioned on it. Mayor Carlson wanted council to clearly vote on this, so we have no question going forward. Council said they would like to try it for 6 months and monitor expenses.

Councilor Sullivan moved to approve Detective Stahl taking his police squad home with him. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously.

Letters of Recognition (No Action)

Chief Baumgart and the Braham Police Department hosted K9 training. The city received 3 letters of thanks/appreciation and Administrator Grafstrom just wanted the recognition noted.

Street Parking Ordinance (No Action)

To address the complaints from the public, we put out the following public statement: "The City of Braham has parking restrictions on city streets which are enforced at the discretion of the Braham Police Dept during a snow event (2" or more)." Grafstrom stated she did not feel the city should be ticketing people who are patronizing businesses that open at 5:30 am. The ordinance currently reads no street parking until 7 am, that is why Grafstrom feels we need to leave it to the discretion of the police department. Councilor Ethen was concerned about using the word "discretion" and felt it would be better to make an exception to the downtown area. Other councilors disagreed. Councilor Sullivan asked Chief Baumgart what he wanted. He would like the snow ordinance amended to no parking in a snow emergency. Councilor Sullivan stated it was just updated last year. He had Chief Baumgart grab the ordinance off the bulletin board and read it. Council agreed that it does not matter what it says, someone will always be unhappy. No action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 19-27 Adopting Final 2020 Budget and Salary Schedule

Councilor Sullivan moved to adopt resolution 19-27 approving the Final 2020 Budget and Salary Schedule. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously.

Resolution 19-28 Adopting the Final General Fund Levy

Councilor Sullivan moved to adopt Resolution 19-28 approving the Final General Fund Levy. Motion seconded by Councilor Kunshier and carried unanimously.

Fee Schedule Changes

Council reviewed and made a few changes to the fee schedule. Grafstrom will put it together for final approval in January. Grafstrom stated even if it is not perfect, it has not been updated for years and this is a start. It can be updated as we move forward if something is not working. No action was taken.

Main Street Revitalization Network Membership

This is just an FYI. At the last council meeting, council took the recommendation of the EDA and approved the fee of \$250 to join Main Street Revitalization as a network member. Since Grafstrom applied for the arts grant, and we did not receive it, the Network waived our membership fee for one year. They also plan to send a representative to address the next meeting of the EDA.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 19-26 Decertify TIF 2-5

Councilor Ethen moved to adopt Resolution 19-26 decertifying TIF District 2-5. Motion seconded by Councilor Sullivan and carried unanimously.

Resolution 19-29 Gaming Permit Kanabec Area Friends

Councilor Ethen moved to adopt Resolution 19-29 approving the Gaming Permit for Kanabec Area Friends contingent on them meeting requirements of the permit. Motion seconded by Councilor Sullivan and carried unanimously.

Resolution 19-30 Accepting Donations

Councilor Sullivan moved to approve Resolution 19-30 Accepting a donation for the fire department. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously. Council would like to thank Mike and Deb Thompson for the donation.

Approve Licenses: Liquor, Cigarette, Amusements

All entities in town have completed the proper paperwork and submitted proof of insurance. Chief Baumgart has reviewed and signed off.

Councilor Ethen moved to approve issuing licenses to Raven Properties for on-sale, Sunday and amusements; Braham Lanes and Wayne's Pro Shop LLC for on-sale 3.2%; Braham Brewing for on-sale and Sunday; and Dino Mart and Dollar General for Cigarette sales. Motion seconded by Councilor Kunshier and carried with Shawn Sullivan abstaining.

Review Ordinance # 285 Amending 119 Est and Fix Duties of PC

Council would like this ordinance to also say the person must work in Braham. Mayor Carlson further explained we currently have an opening for one Planning Commission Member and one fill-in member. Ordinance will be set for adoption at the next council meeting scheduled for 7pm January 7, 2020.

Review Ordinance # 287 Restricting Use of the City's Name

Council reviewed the ordinance to protect the use of the City's name. Councilor Ethen was concerned that people couldn't use Braham on t-shirts, or in another context. Mayor Carlson explained it would not apply if it is not implying, they are affiliated with the City of Braham as the political entity. The ordinance will be set for adoption at the January 7, 2020 meeting.

Liquor Store Hours

Manager Nordby reported she is down 3 people at the liquor store and would like to reduce the liquor store hours for the winter. Councilor Sullivan said this decision should be up to Jacque as the Manager of the liquor store.

Councilor Sullivan moved to approve liquor store hours may be changed at the discretion of the liquor store Manager. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously.

Engineering Report

Les Mateffy of Moore Engineering was present to report that based on the city's median income of approximately \$44300, and the average water/sewer bill the city should be very grant fundable. He will not be at the next meeting, but another member of his team will attend. Councilor Ethen recommended Grafstrom add "Engineering Report" back on to the council agendas near the beginning like they used to be. We can leave it on there, then if they don't come and have a report, we will just skip it. Grafstrom agreed to add "Engineering Report" back to the agenda. She stated it was not on this one as she did not know until the last minute that they planned to attend. Mateffy added it doesn't matter to him if he is not at the beginning as he will stay for the entire council meeting anyway.

The guests at the council meeting had not spoken, so Councilor Sullivan asked them who they were and why they attended. Citizens Zeis and Schlotthauer stated they attended to hear about the taxes and express concerns about their water quality. They have had discolored water and a calcium build up. Council told them the city has been working on the water quality issues with People Service and hope to get better water quality going forward.

There being no further business for the Council on December 3, 2019, Councilor Sullivan moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilor Knowles and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Submitted by Angela M. Grafstrom