

NISSWA CITY COUNCIL
July 19, 2017

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The regular meeting of the Nisswa City Council was held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Members Present: Heidmann, Jacobson, Ryan, Krautkremer

Members Absent: Johnson

Also Present: Dan Vogt, Tom Blomer, Desmond McGeough, Matthew Hill, Tom Pearson, Mark Hallan

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Jacobson, seconded by Krautkremer to approve the consent calendar with the provision that Item N includes the required signature and that the amount of the CD renewal Item M be clarified.

- A. Approve minutes of April 25th, May 17th, June 21st, and June 28th.
- B. Police Chief's Report.
- C. Approval of Anderson Brother's Bid for crack sealing; budgeted item.
- D. Planning & Zoning Administrator's Report.
- E. Parks & Recreation Director's Report.
- F. Accept donation from Nisswa Lions for Community Center Sign; \$2,650.
- G. Accept donation from Nisswa Lions for new safety equipment for baseball; \$700.
- H. Accept donation from Friends of Nisswa Lake Park for bench; \$476.
- I. Spirits of Nisswa Report.
- J. Accept resignation from Spencer Sanford as of July 22nd.
- K. Accept resignation from Christopher Hunter as of August 5th.
- L. Approval to hire Christine Krause as part-time employee \$10.94/hours, starting 7/14/2017.
- M. Renewal of CD #403522 for 12 months.
- N. Approval of raffle for Lakeshore Conservation Club, held at Grand View Lodge.
- O. Approval of raffle for Nisswa American Legion Auxiliary.
- P. Presentation of Claims

Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

Darrell Skiba discussed a no parking sign in front of his store in the Downtown area. Public Works Director Blomer stated that he has been made aware of this matter but doesn't know the history of the sign and hasn't taken action to remove the sign as this is a matter to be determined by the City Council. Member Krautkremer stated that he will make a call to an individual who may have information about the signage. **Motion** by

Jacobson, seconded by Ryan to table this matter until the regular August City Council meeting and to hopefully have interested parties attend to discuss this matter. Motion carried unanimously.

Reed Larson of the Friends of Nisswa Lake Park discussed the proposed picnic shelter for the property which is estimated to cost about \$35,000. The Mayor and members of the Council applauded their work and encouraged continued efforts.

Gene and Bonnie Skudlarek who own a home in the “Cove” addressed the Council concerning the possibility of businesses operating out of various homes in the area. The City Council directed Planning and Zoning Director McGeough to review the matter and work with the property owners to resolve this issue.

REPORTS

City Attorney – Attorney Pearson reported that he will be updating and finalizing the Public Works Commission and Purchasing Ordinances which will be presented at the August City Council Meeting.

City Engineer – Engineer Hallan stated that he will be commenting on the Enda Lake Road item later in the agenda.

City Administrator – Interim City Administrator Vogt presented a check in the amount of \$2,432.11 from the Nisswa Lions Club for turn out gear for the Fire Department. **Motion** by Jacobson, seconded by Ryan to accept the donation as noted and to offer a sincere thank you to the Club for its generosity. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor requested that “Old Business” be moved up to follow Item “E” under New Business and Items F, G and H follow. There being no objection, the agenda was amended.

- A. Bob Johnson’s ERC Calculation and Payment Proposal. Public Works Director Blomer stated that the proposal has been amended since the Public Works Committee meeting. It was noted that the ERC’s have been reduced from 9 to 6. The total sewer bill during the 1st year will be \$1,181.25 plus usage charge based on meter readings and includes 5% interest. After the 1st year, final building ERC’s will be determined by actual use to determine actual ERC number. The quarterly payment will be adjusted up or down and collected over the remaining 4 years until the total final connection charge is paid. **Motion** by Krautkremer, seconded by Jacobson to approve the calculation and payment as outlined in the proposal dated July 19, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Accept the bid from Mathiowetz Construction Co. for Edna Lake Road Improvements. A representative of Mathiowetz explained “mobilization” charges. It was also explained that the Alternate No. 1 and 2 are additional costs. Lengthy discussion took place regarding the proposed alternates. It was noted that the City had agreed to pay up to

- \$800 for driveway work for an adjacent property owner with any additional costs borne by the property owner. **Motion** by Krautkremer, seconded by Jacobson to accept the base bid from Mathiowetz Construction Co. for the Edna Lake Road Improvements in the amount of \$39,216.63 and to reject Alternates No. 1 and 2. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Highway 371 access closure at Fritz’s Frontage Road. Public Works Director Blomer reported that the property owner wants to keep the access to the highway open. No action necessary.
- D. Rezoning of PID No. 28014200000009 from “Open Space” to “Highway Business”. Councilmember Jacobson reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission has denied the application. It was stated in the staff report that a 4/5th vote of the City Council is required for an approval of a rezoning application from a residential to a commercial zoning district. Property owner Tom Briggs addressed the Council questioning what he might be able to rezone the property to in order to sell. Discussion included a review of the staff report where the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance were reviewed to determine zoning compatibility of the request. Councilmember Jacobson stated that approval would open a number of other properties to similar requests. Lengthy discussion took place. **Motion** by Heidmann, seconded by Jacobson to accept the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the rezoning application. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Briggs was encouraged to work with the P & Z Director to try to come up with a viable alternative.
- E. Adoption of “The City of Nisswa Floodplain Ordinance”. Councilmember Jacobson questioned if the City already had a floodplain ordinance and if so, the City Code would need to be amended to allow for the new ordinance. P & Z Director McGeough stated that he is not aware of such a provision in City Code. **Motion** by Jacobson, seconded by Krautkremer to adopt the City of Nisswa Floodplain Ordinance as proposed and further to review City Code to determine if there are any conflicts and to publish a summary ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Jacobson, seconded by Krautkremer to table Item A to a special meeting at a date to be determined and Item B to the next meeting as requested by the City Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- F. City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Hiring Status. Interim City Administrator Vogt reported that since the Council offered the position to Lisa Sova on Monday, July 17th, she has withdrawn her name from further consideration. The search consultant then contacted Jenny Max to determine if she would accept the position. Discussions took place since Ms. Sova’s withdrawal with Ms. Max. An employment agreement was attached with the agenda packet. **Motion** Heidmann, seconded by Jacobson to accept the

- hiring of Jenny Max to the position of City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer and to approve the Employment agreement as proposed including a starting date of August 21 and salary of \$82,742 (Grade 20, Step 5). Discussion. Councilmember Krautkremer stated that he would like the City Council to consider Dawn Hayes for the position as she showed strength in long-range planning which would be beneficial to the City. Councilmember Ryan stated that both remaining candidates have various strengths and weaknesses and would have no problem with either. Mayor Heidmann stated that he felt that all three candidates who interviewed for the position were very good. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. 2018 Budget. Interim City Administrator Vogt requested a consensus on parameters for the 2018 levy and budget. Mayor Heidmann suggested the possibility of a 1-2% increase. He would like to see a “real” budget with the knowledge that some departments may go up and some down. Also, the Mayor suggested a flat budget/levy as well as a budget with a 3% decrease. No consensus was reached in favor of preparation of a decrease. Councilmember Jacobson stated that he is not in favor of a 0% budget and that the City needs to look out further than just one year. Councilmember Krautkremer stated that he didn’t want Department Heads to take the time to come up with cuts and he would stick with a 0-3% increase. Councilmember Ryan noted that the cost of living increase during the past year has been just under 2% so he would favor a 0-2% increase. Vogt stated that more discussion would be held at the next regular meeting on August 16 and that the preliminary 2018 levy is not due at the County until September 30.
- H. Union Negotiations: Closed session at the end of the meeting pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.03. Interim City Administrator Vogt stated that union negotiations are beginning and that direction is needed from the Council for bargaining. He stated that the Council will be going into closed session at the end of the meeting for this discussion.

REPORTS

- A. Mayor. Mayor Heidmann stated that he intends to inform WSN and Bolton & Menk that he would like them to each submit a Wastewater Facility Plan to the Council at a special meeting to be called in the near future. Councilmember Jacobson stated that he felt that it is difficult for competing firms to sit and listen to opposing firms present plans for the same project. Engineer Hallan explained what such a proposal might include.
- B. City Council. Councilmember Krautkremer discussed the Nisswa Lake Park and stated that the Council should get behind the project. He requested that this item be included on an upcoming meeting agenda in the very near future. Councilmember Ryan discussed the barrier at Edna Lake Road-Mn/DOT, that the Public Works Commission will be looking for applicants via advertisement through available media, and that the St. Columbo Road paving/funding process will need to be discussed in the not too distant future.

Motion by Krautkremer, seconded by Jacobson to go into closed session pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.03 for the purpose of discussing union negotiation strategies. Motion carried unanimously. Closed session began at 9:38 p.m.

ADJOURN

Motion by Jacobson, seconded by Krautkremer to come back into open session and adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Fred Heidmann, Mayor

Daniel J. Vogt, Interim City Administrator