

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
December 12, 2022

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, December 12, 2022 by Tom Price, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Nadine Hedtke, Joe Luedtke, Mike Drahosh and Jeremy Byers.

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Russ Lucht, Erick Blaisdell, Bill Morgan, Barb Morgan, Jeffrey Flaws, and Noree Wicklander.

Addition: F: Donations – Resolutions 2022-14,15,16
G: Receipts

Compliments: Mike received a compliment from a resident stating she was appreciative of Erick helping her.

Complaints: Resident complaint of having snow plowed into alley. He would like the alley treated as a driveway since he uses it often and drives a car rather than a truck. Resident complaint regarding noise and revving engines frequently. Suggested to call Pine County Sheriff's Office should it continue.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Hedtke to approve minutes from the November 14, 2022 regular council meeting, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Wyatt Lucht reported that November had 13 total calls, eleven medical calls and two fire calls for 84 man hours. The fire department received a generous donation of \$5,000.00 from Bruce & Nancy Pagotchnik to be used for SCBA's. The fire department lost one rescue member who has not renewed their training and their license is expired. The member seldom reported to rescue calls in the past year. There has been an inquiry of a new member joining who is already trained. Chief Lucht stated having computer issues and is requesting a new laptop. Mayor Price suggested a company to contact and to inquire about refurbished laptops that offer a warranty.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot stated the aerator arrived Friday and he has a call in to an electrician for installation. Mikrot provide two quotes to the council for an additional service pump for the water plant. Due to the cost, Mayor Price would prefer paying for only the part at this time, not the installation and labor. Mikrot would like parts available should an issue ever arise. Insurance should cover the cost of the service pump, with the exception of labor.

Zoning and Planning: N/A

Dawn Tasler, Deputy Clerk: Tasler gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating November 2022 had a net loss of \$750.00 with YTD profit at approximately \$92,800.00. Noree Wicklander, Bar Manager, noted that she is slowly transitioning to her new title and overseeing the necessary tasks at hand.

A motion was made by Drahosh to accept November financials and pay bills seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.

Old business:

- A. Tasler gave an update on the Post Office sign. She received a vendor signage catalog from the party the USPS uses for creating signs. She noted a couple pages from the catalog include non-illuminated wall signs with images similar to the current monument sign outside the Post Office. Tasler is waiting for pricing on these items. Mayor Price suggested to select the least expensive sign.
- B. Tasler received a quote from the cleaning service for bar cleaning. The quote indicated \$40 per hour for three hours, or \$120 per day. It was discussed to have one deep cleaning completed per week by the cleaning company on Sundays after bar close. A recommendation was made to raise the wage for the current cleaning employee. There is a lack of applicants due to the current wage. It was recommended to pay by the day rather than hourly at possibly \$60 per cleaning. Wicklander suggested bartenders to take out garbage each night after the evening shift. A motion was made by Drahosh for three days of staff cleaning and one day of professional service cleaning, seconded by Byers. It will be up to Wicklander to select days of staff cleaning.

New business:

- A. Resolution 2022-17 for the final tax levy for 2023 was motioned by Drahosh, seconded by Hedtke, with all in favor.
- B. Employee wage increases for 2023 were discussed. Byers recommended a minimum of 4% and for all employees to receive the increase so all are on the same raise schedule for annual wage increases. Drahosh suggested a 5% increase to which Byers agreed. Byers motioned and Drahosh seconded a wage increase of 5% for all employees starting the first full payroll of 2023.
- C. Mayor Price advised a minimum of 4 hours to be paid when a maintenance employee is called in outside their regular working hours. Such reasons for being called in are ice/snow removal among other imperative city maintenance. Drahosh motioned to approve the minimum pay and Luedtke seconded.
- D. The council reviewed a quote provided by Aquarius Home Services for the repair of the pressure loop. If not fixed the furnace will continue to leak. Approval of the reparation was motioned by Hedtke and seconded by Drahosh, with all in favor.

- E. Resolutions 2022-14, 2022-15, and 2022-16 for donations to the Fire Department were accepted. In November, Donna Cronin donated \$150.00 and an anonymous donation was made of \$1,000.00. Bruce & Nancy Pagotchnik donated \$5,000 in December as noted in the fire department report.
- F. Any employee reimbursements need to have the original receipt or invoice attached. Purchases made for the bar and an employee's personal purchases need to be separate and not together on the same receipt.

A motion was made by Byers to adjourn, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Dawn Tasler, Deputy Clerk