

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
January 11, 2021

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, January 11, 2021 by Tom Price, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Others present: Wyatt Lucht, Vickie Oetterer, John Mikrot, Bill Morgan.

Oath of Office performed for Mayor Tom Price and Council members Mike Drahosh and Nadine Hedtke.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Drahosh to approve minutes from the December 7, 2020 regular council meeting, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Complaints/questions: Bjorklund received a complaint from Adam McFarland regarding the timeliness of the alley behind his house getting cleared after snowfall. He indicated that he broke a part of his vehicle and his snowblower trying to get through the snow. Bjorklund indicated to him that the alleys are the last things to get cleared because they aren't main entrances to properties. Council indicated that the plowing will continue to be done as it is.

Additions: B: Heather Anthony property concerns
C: Travis Conrad return to on-sale

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Wyatt Lucht reported that December had four medical calls totaling 19.5 man hours. There has been a total of 119 total calls in 2020. There is free training we will be participating in from MN Fire for the next four months. A frames picture/news paper article from 1954 when the Fire Dept received its first Fire Truck was donated to the dept.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot indicated that the lift station pump had been installed. Bolton & Menk has contacted Mikrot asking if we were interested in going smoke testing on the sewer system to look for leaks. Smoke testing has never been done but we are aware there are some leaks as the pumps are working more and the ponds are receiving more fluid than normal. Mikrot will ask for a quote.

Zoning and Planning: None.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Administrator: Bjorklund gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating December 2020 had a net loss of approximately \$14,000 and 2020 closed with a net loss of \$45,000. The COVID relief grant that is in process for bars and restaurants is going to miss us yet again. Due to the criteria for qualifying of a loss of at least 30% based on sales tax paid in,

we do not qualify because of the increase in off-sale which only shows our loss at around 12% even though on-sale lost 100% of sales and off-sale doesn't carry the same margins. The 2020 financial audit with Eide Bailly will start the week of January 18th. Bjorklund is still waiting for a response from Pine Lake Twsp and Finlayson Twsp on quotes for plowing and grading.

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

Old Business:

- A. Tom Price has looked at the old freezer that is currently not working to look for a new temperature controller which is what the service company deemed was the issue. Price will purchase a temperature controller and install it with the hopes that the \$150 fix is the answer. If not, we will need to get it fixed by the service company or purchase a new one.

New business:

- A. Resolution 2021-01 for annual appointments passed by motion from Drahosh, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- B. Bjorklund was advised by Dennis Slama that what appears to be the son of Heather Anthony and his girlfriend/wife are living in the camper that is on the property which is in disrepair. Additionally, they have been stealing power from the neighbor to the West of the alley. The neighbor, Charlie Hillock, was advised to call the police if the electricity theft continues. Nothing further to be done at this time.
- C. Travis Conrad has approached Tom Price asking to be allowed back into the bar. Conrad was previously 86'd out of the bar due to a fight. However, he has not caused any issues outside of the bar since the incident. Council agrees to allow him back in on the condition that if he gets into another incident he will be permanently removed.

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

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator