

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
January 8, 2018

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, January 8, 2018 by Ed Cowart, Mayor at 6:30 PM.

Council Members present: Joe Luedtke, Tom Price, Jeremy Byers

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Bill Morgan, Natasha Watercott, Greg Sorenson, Bernard Marx

Additions or Corrections:

Closed session following regular council meeting to discuss an employee

Approval of Minutes:

A motion by Price to approve minutes from December 11, 2017 regular council meeting seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Lucht Wyatt reported December had 3 rescue calls and 2 fire calls. Dawn Anderson resigned from the Fire Dept in December. There were no nominations for internal officers during their monthly meeting. There will be an officers meeting in January to discuss participation of fire fighters to meetings and calls.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: John reported that we are still using the refurbished pump at the lift station on Front Street until our pump can be fixed.

Zoning and Planning: Blithe issues with the Friel property have not been corrected and per the judgment order the City can now enter the property to remedy the issues until May 27, 2018. The personal property located on the City property west of town on Hwy 18 has been partially cleaned out. The owners of the property have been granted an extension until May 31, 2018 to completely remove all of their property.

Nicole Bjorklund City Administrator: Bjorklund gave overview of the Liquor stating December was a very good month for the Municipal with New Years Eve being the best sales day of the month. Yearend inventory counting was completed 1, 2018 and the auditor successfully reviewed several counts with no issues. Two complaints have been received regarding one dog that is barking endlessly at all hours. A letter has been sent to the resident.

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

Old Business:

- A. Council vacancy: A motion by Price was made to not fill the vacant spot and wait until the election, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- B. Zoning Administrator appointment/Zoning Committee member vacancy: The council has appointed Greg Sorenson as the Zoning and Planning Administrator. An ad was placed in the Pine County Courier for the vacant position on the Zoning and Planning Committee.
- C. Friel blight: The blight has not been cleaned up and based on the judgment that was awarded to City, the City can enter the property until May 27, 2018 to being the property up to ordinance. Mutt to go to property and do an assessment to determine what needs to be done and take pictures. Bjorklund to review the judgment order for specifics of clean up.
- D. Hwy 18 City land: Bernard Marx presented information to the council on his property that is on the City land. Robert Guss has removed most of his property. The council has extended the deadline to May 31, 2018 for the remaining items to be removed.

New business:

- A. Resolution 2018-01 Annual Appointments accepted by council with motion by Luedtke, seconded by Price, with all in favor and carried.
- B. Resolution 2018-02 Polling location designation accepted by council with motion by Price, seconded by Byers, with all in favor and carried.
- C. Employee Policy 01-2018 accepted by the council with motion by Price, seconded by Luedtke, with all in favor and carried.
- D. Employee handbook to be reviewed and updated by next council meeting.
- E. Mobile bar/waitress station information was presented to the council but will be tabled until the next meeting.
- F. Added security measures for liquor store information including panic buttons and additional external cameras was presented to the council and accepted with motion by Price, seconded by Luedtke, with all in favor and carried.
- G. Bar cleaning equipment information was present to the council for the purchase of an electric floor scrubber for better cleanliness and consistency of cleaning for the bar. Council would like to review other options. Bjorklund to get quotes on having someone come in once a month for a deep clean or for renting a floor scrubber.
- H. Tom Matson/Finnish Cemetery – Matson came to City Hall to discuss the City taking over operations and maintenance at the Finnish Cemetery west of town. The council indicated that in previous years have not shown interest in operating or maintaining the cemetery. No further discussion on this topic.
- I. St. Urho's/New Muni anniversary – Bjorklund indicated that Lyon and The Ladies band has been hired for March 24, 2018 from 7-10pm at the Muni. It was agreed that due to the success of the food truck that was at the gun raffle that we will contact the individual that operated the food truck to invite them back for St. Urho's/new Muni anniversary celebration.

A motion by Price to adjourn seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator