Harris City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020

I. Call to Order

Mayor Miller called to order the regular meeting of the Harris City Council at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Mayor Miller conducted roll call. Present: Mayor Miller, Councilmember Williams, Councilmember Sculley, Councilmember Payne, and Councilmember Rossini. Absent: none. A quorum was present.

IV. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Payne moved to approve the 12.9.19 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes, the 12.19.19 Special City Council Meeting Minutes, and the Accounts Payable. Councilmember Sculley seconded the motion. Councilmembers Payne, Sculley, and Williams and Mayor Miller voted yea for approval. Councilmember Rossini abstained from voting because he was not at one of the meetings. Motion carried.

V. Public Comment

Nathan Wald attended the meeting. He was concerned with how the roads were plowed. He stated that the plowing was terrible, ignoring large amounts of slush on the road. Mr. Wald wanted to know how often People Service plows the road and how often they sand the road. He said the City Council should set a limit of snow for when PeopleService plows or sands the roads. Mr. Wald is concerned that the residents are paying taxes for a service that isn't being used. He also wanted to know what the next step is in fixing the problem. Mayor Miller advised for the Council to wait on taking any action before Paul Christensen, the PeopleService Region Manager, has acted.

VI. Public Hearing

Mayor Miller opened the Public Hearing for the 2020 Proposed Fee Schedule at 7:08 p.m. No one had anything to discuss, so Mayor Miller closed the Public Hearing for the 2020 Proposed Fee Schedule at 7:09 p.m.

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VII. Regular Agenda

- Conditional Use Permit- K'Nyaw Baptist Church
  - Multiple representatives of the K'Nyaw Baptist Church attended the meeting. Project Manager Joel Dhein stated that the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on the CUP, and no one spoke against the CUP. The Planning Commission recommended the CUP to the City Council as written. Mr. Dhein also stated that City Engineer Chuck Schwartz has provided a rough estimate for extending the sewer and water. Dudley Younkin, the representing lawyer for the church, attended the meeting. He reiterated what was said at the 1.6.20 Planning Commission Meeting. He also said that one or both pastors will be living in the current residence, and the church will use the residence for a Sunday School. Councilmember Sculley asked Mr. Younkin when the addition to the old Event Center would be built. Mr. Younkin said the plan is to construct the addition soon after the property has been purchased. Mr. Younkin had a concern with item number six in section three of the CUP for operation of a church in the R3 District. He believes the item is unnecessary. The Council decided to add the wording, "if necessary," to the end of the item. Mayor Miller asked if the driveway would be a problem. Mr. Younkin said no, it shouldn't be a problem. Shawn, a Harris City resident, asked about what the church would be bringing to the community. Mr. Younkin said the church members want to contribute and they want to have a relationship with Harris. Councilmember Rossini asked what specifically the church will do and what have they done in the past. One of the church members stated that the K'Nyaw Baptist Church has volunteered, cleaned, acted as interpreters, donated to food shelves, specifically Neighborhood House in West St. Paul, and have donated to other organizations as well. The member said that the church is willing to contribute to the City of Harris. Mr. Hanson stated that he conducted informal research into the potential tax revenue of the City of Harris. He said the total taxes on the property is around $4000. If the City of Harris grants the church a CUP, and at least ten members move to the area, then Chisago County could gain over $24,000 in tax revenue. Councilmember Rossini asked if the Karen of the K'Nyaw Baptist Church have any affiliation with the Buddhist Karen in the area. The church member said that both groups of Karen, but they both practice different religions. Mr. Dhein stated that there is an option to tax churches if the churches agree to be taxed. Councilmember Rossini moved to accept the Conditional Use Permit to operate a church in the R-3 zoning district. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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- 2020 Proposed Fee Schedule
    - Councilmember Rossini moved to accept Ordinance 2020-01, An Ordinance Adopting a Fee Schedule. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The new fee schedule is effective immediately. Councilmember Williams moved to approve Ordinance 2020-01, *A* Summary of An Ordinance Adopting a Fee Schedule. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Ordinance Code Update
    - Project Manager Joel Dhein stated that American Legal Publishing will perform an ordinance code update for $3,100 - $4,100; the shipping estimate is from $120 - $150; and updating code on the American Legal Publishing website costs $300 - $400. Councilmember Payne moved to approve the recodification of the City's ordinances. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Record Retention Schedule Update
    - Project Manager Joel Dhein presented a Resolution to Adopt a Records Retention Schedule. Councilmember Sculley moved to approve Resolution 2020-02 Adopting a Records Retention Schedule. Councilmember Rossini seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Annual Designations
    - The City Council reviewed the Annual Appointments and Designations for 2020. Councilmember Payne moved to approve Resolution 2020-01 of Annual Appointments and Designations for 2020. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Due to scheduling complications with the upcoming election dates, the Planning Commission requested to move its March 2 and November 2 Meeting dates to March 5 and November 5. Councilmember Sculley moved to change the dates. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The August 10 City Council Regular Meeting also has complications due to election dates. Councilmember Rossini moved to change the City Council Regular Meeting on August 10 to August 17. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Gambling Permit Renewal
    - The North Branch Area Hockey Association applied for a gambling permit renewal for lawful, charitable gambling at the Fuse. Councilmember Sculley moved to accept the application. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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- City Clerk Position
    - Mayor Miller stated the City of Harris needs a Clerk. The Clerk position would be a shared position. The City already has Barb Vogtlin, but the City requires another person to help with code enforcement and community outreach; and personnel are required for the upcoming elections. The new Clerk would work 15 hours a week for $22 dollars per hour. Tom Thompson, one of the people interviewed for the Project Manager position, is ready and available. Councilmember Rossini moved to hire Mr. Thompson as City Clerk. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. Mayor Miller, Councilmember Rossini, and Councilmember Payne were in favor. Councilmembers Sculley and Williams were opposed. Motion carried.
- City Hall
    - Mayor Miller has been working in the City Hall office to help the City to save money. The City saved a total of $23,000 with Mayor Miller in the office. Mayor Miller stated that she would like to see City Hall upgraded with a lowered ceiling, improved sound system, a handicap bathroom, wiring improvements, and leveling the floor in the Council Chambers. Councilmember Rossini moved to use the $23,000 saved for improving City Hall. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Miller, Councilmember Rossini, and Councilmember Williams were in favor. Councilmembers Payne and Sculley opposed. Motion carried.

VIII. Staff Reports

- **People Service**
    - **Water, Wastewater, and Public Works Reports**
        - The People Service Water, Wastewater, and Public Works Report was reviewed by the City Council. One estimate for repairing the Wastewater Plant Roof was presented to the City Council. Councilmember Williams will work on acquiring a second estimate for repairs. A third estimate is still needed. The People Service Contract need updating. The City Council tabled the contracts for February's Regular Meeting to wait for Paul Christiansen from People Service.
    - **Grader**
        - Council member Williams moved to approve the purchase of parts for the City dump truck for around $1,318.66. Councilmember Sculley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Mayor Miller moved to approve the purchase of grader parts for $552.87, and for a grader checkup for around $689.40. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Henry Gregoire asked who owns

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the Christmas decorations in the storage area for Public Works. The City Council will investigate it.

- **Fire Department Report**
  - The Christmas Party went well. Councilmember Rossini asked Fire Chief Gregoire if the Fire Department is doing anything for Groundhog's Day. Chief Gregoire said not likely.

IX. Planning Commission - John Rossini

Councilmember Rossini said the 1.6.2020 Regular Planning Commission Meeting went well. The Planning Commission asked the Council for direction on what to deal with next.

X. Mayor and Council Reports

Councilmember Williams requested for a key to access the Public Works building to assist with the snowplowing.

XI. Adjourn

Mayor Miller moved to adjourn the 1.13.2020 Regular City Council Meeting. Councilmember Rossini seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The 1.13.2020 Regular City Council Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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Mayor Diane Miller

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Barbara A. Vogtlin
City Clerk

2-10-2020
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Date Approved

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