

REGULAR MEETING
Litchfield City Council - City Council Room
May 21, 2019 - 6:30 PM

Mayor- O.R. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call: Present – Mayor Smith, Councilpersons – Don Bannick, Rick Siebert, Dan Efstathiou, Kevin Collins, Andy Reynolds and Jessica Bills.

Absent: None

Also Present – City Manager - Douglas Terry, Treasurer/Finance Director - Jill Barrett, Police Chief. –Dan Roberts, DPW Superintendent – Tony Langhann, City Clerk - Susan Ballinger, Deputy Clerk – Lauren Skelly, HDN-Andy Barrand, Index – Mike Warner, HCC-Julie Games, Jones & Henry Rep.- Aaron Davenport, Mrs. Wildt and Ilene Gaskell.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Siebert moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Motion carried.

Call to the Public- Julie Games updated the board on 2019-2020 budget plans for Hillsdale County.

Ilene Gaskell, daughter to Mrs. Wildt who lives on Jonesville Street, asked why there has been such an abundance of water coming in. Mrs. Gaskell stated that there are two pumps in her Mother's basement and they both are running all the time. They had a drywell installed in the back yard and now that well is saturated with water standing on top of the drywell. Mrs. Gaskell stated that her mom has lived here since 1958 and last year was the first time that she started having problems with the water. Mayor, Smith stated that when the Millrace was emptied, it has clay lining which has broken down and allows water to transfer to all the areas around. It's a big issue. Manager, Terry asked if they wouldn't mind staying for the meeting so they can hear what the engineer has to say about the situation. Mrs. Gaskell stated yes, they are looking for answers to the problem.

Public Hearing – 2019-2020 Budget – Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 6:38 p.m. and with no comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 6:40 p.m.

Resolution 2019-06 – Establish Tax Levy – A motion was made by Councilman Siebert to adopt Resolution 2019-06, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Resolution 2019-07 – Establish Water/Sewer/Solid Waste Fees - A motion was made by Councilwoman Bills adopt Resolution 2019-07, support by Councilman Siebert. (1) Nay Vote Councilman Bannick, Motion Carried.

Resolution 2019-08 –Budget Adoption Resolution & Appropriations – A motion was made by Councilman Bannick to adopt Resolution 2019-08, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Resolution 2019-09 –Establish Authorized Dealers – A motion was made by Councilman Siebert to adopt Resolution 2019-09, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Second Reading/Adoption Ordinance 2019-02 Establishing Salaries for Certain Appointed Officials – A motion was made by Councilman Bannick to adopt Ordinance 2019-02, support by Councilman Collins. Motion Carried.

Resolution 2019-10 – 2019 Board of Review July Meeting Date – A motion was made by Councilman Bannick to adopt Resolution 2019-10, support by Councilman Efstathiou. Motion Carried

Washington Street Paving Bid Results – Manager Terry presented the board with the results of the Washington Street bids. At this time city administration is recommending to award the bid to Belson Paving with a one year warranty.

Councilman Bannick moved to accept the bid from Belson Paving in an amount of \$90,000.00, support by Councilwoman Bills. Motion Carried.

Discuss Mill Race Dam – Manager Terry informed the board that the city has seen increased extraneous flow into the city's sanitary sewer system and we believe that sump pumps are the biggest contributor for that. Aaron Davenport stated that this will be a trickle down problem and the home owners are the primary concern and if treatment is not achieved this could become a permanent problem down the road. Aaron Davenport has spoken with the State of Michigan regarding the Dam and they are fully in favor of the dam's removal (at Firemen's Park). The State's primary concern is the streams slopes stability, so the first thing that needs to be done is to get a survey done to see what the actual grades of the Mill Race are so we can determine what features need to be engineered so we can appropriately deal with removal of the Dam. Aaron's recommendation to the board is to proceed with the survey to see what the grades are like and determine the rehabilitation measures are then proceed with the design. The design would then need a permit then removed as quickly as possible. Aaron stated that the extra 9 ft of additional elevation of water in the Mill Race is a significant amount of pressure on the system.

Manager Terry recommended to the board to accept the proposal from Jones & Henry in the amount of \$25,000.00. Aaron Davenport informed the board that he was asked by Manager Terry for a price to do this project, but streams are very tricky and until we actually get the survey I have a really hard time telling you what the actual cost will be. I know what the State will want for slope ability within the stream but until I actually know what those grades look like I can't give the board a for sure what it will cost. I hope the survey comes back that it won't need a lot of design of grade structure and that the price is actually lower than what's given in the proposal. I just want the board to know until I see the actual results of the survey and then I will evaluate it and give Manager Terry a call and give an exact amount of the cost.

Councilman Bannick moved to approve an amount up to \$25,000 for Jones & Henry to survey the Mill Race Dam with recommendations, support by Councilman Collins. Motion Carried.

Mill Street Engineering Proposal – Manager Terry that after talking with Aaron Davenport of Jones & Henry regarding Mill Street water main. The city is looking at about a \$250,000.00 project. After discussion amongst the board, city administrations recommends the service of Jones & Henry to design and help prepare bids for construction of a water main and street paving relating to Mill Street.

Aaron Davenport again stated that he will do everything he can to keep the cost as low as he possibly can and not exceed the proposed amount.

Councilman Bannick moved to accept the proposal for the Mill Street project in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from Jones & Henry, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Street Improvement Discussion – Manager Terry stated that city administration and its board members had a plan of streets that we wanted to do and in a certain order. We wanted to Washington and then move on and to East and Williams Street at the same time in the next fiscal year. We have the deterioration of N. Chicago Street which was paved around nine years ago and what we are seeing is an unraveling of the asphalt. Manager Terry decided to contact Belson and give the city a price to mill 2 inches off N. Chicago and put back 2 inches with 4 E asphalt which will give us a longer life and as you see Belson gave a price of \$92,000.00; Manager Terry asked the board if they would consider deviating from the planned street schedule to do N. Chicago Street. After discussion amongst the board; Councilman Bannick moved to accept the change order for Washington Street to include N. Chicago Street, support by Councilman Collins. Motion Carried with 1 Nay vote Councilman Reynolds.

Bills for Approval – Councilman Bannick moved to approve the bills in the amount of \$43,630.01 and charge to

the proper accounts, seconded by Councilman Efstathiou. Motion carried.

Police Report – Councilman Reynolds moved to approve the police report as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Motion carried.

Public Works Report – Councilman Siebert moved to accept the public works report as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.

Treasurers Update – Treasurer Barrett informed the board that she has been at training and there are new things coming and she will bring those changes to the board next month.

City Manager's Update – Manager Terry stated that he and the Mayor have been working on the pool design and met with engineers today and they are communicating with the DNR.

Mayor Smith stated they have been working with the State regarding grants and loans. Manager Terry has been talking with MSHDA on housing loans for lower income families.

Correspondence –None

Committee Reports – None

Councilpersons Concerns – Councilman Siebert would like to revisit the grass cutting/blowing ordinance at the next regular meeting.

Councilman Efstathiou asked what was going on at the old Power Plant. Manager Terry stated that Michigan Hub is currently working on their financing and hope to start construction in the fall.

Adjournment – Councilman Bannick moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., seconded by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.

