

AMERY CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

February 3, 2016

The Amery City Council met for a regular meeting on February 3rd, 2016 at City Hall. Mayor Kay Erickson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Erickson, Rick Davis, Kristen Vicker, David Myers, Tim Strohbusch, Rick Van Blaricom, and Julie Riemenschneider.

Staff present: Darcy Long, Fran Duncanson, Megan Will, Tom Marson, Dale Koehler, Bones McCarty, Chanz Green, and James Nalen.

Others present: Judy Johnson from Centennial Hall, Shari Bergan, and Jessica de la Cruz from the Amery Free Press.

Roll call was conducted by Clerk Duncanson.

David Myers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Strohbusch and seconded by Riemenschneider to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2016 City Council meeting.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Officers Reports

Police Chief-Marson: Thanked Jessica and the Free Press for the article about the simulator training held in Clear Lake. The Amery Family Restaurant is holding another emergency services fundraiser coming up on February 9th. Dept. staff will help serve that day and this event was a great success last year. Marson gave the report for January and the annual report for 2015.

DPW Director-McCarty: Reported a peaceful winter so far with more sanding than snow plowing. McCarty addressed a recent complaint regarding slippery conditions and sanding. McCarty apologized if they missed a spot and they try as best they can to keep up. Maintenance and repair work has been done on trucks. Asst. PWD Green gave information regarding the cross connection notices that went out with the water bills recently. Green, Adam Jackson, and Jeff Mahoney will be working on getting us in compliance with DNR regulations. They are trying to get as many done as possible by March. Please read your notices and there is useful information on the back. 10% of residential customers need to be checked every year. so the City crew will be stopping by 10% of residential customers on a rotating basis. Commercial customers need to be checked every two years. Some of the inspections were done when the new radio read meters were installed.

Library Director-Nalen: Upcoming programs are Color Your Way to Calm presented by Keisha Marson. The Friends of the Amery Area Public Library are holding their annual membership event February 13th. There will be a variety of demos that day. The Pint Size Science program is later this month. The After School Library Club is available by taking the bus from school.

Fire Chief-Koehler: Presented the January report. There were over 270 hours spent in training. The seven FFI entry level firefighters will finish up this month. The Finance Committee met with the Towns to discuss departmental capital expenses including the rescue boat. They are trying to time the purchase so the boat arrives in time for training next spring. The WI Dept. of Safety

will be conducting a routine audit of 2% dues. The recent donkey basketball game was a fun event the Dept. participated in.

Management Analyst-Will: The Community Garden project is ready to go and an informational session will be held on Feb 11th at Amery Hospitals & Clinics with a with master gardener.

City Clerk-Duncanson: Reported on upcoming elections and the requirement to show a photo ID when voting in person or absentee and getting a free photo ID from the DMV.

City Administrator-Long: Reminded the public to check out the City newsletter, Face Book page and website. The new Industrial Park project rezoning will be coming up next month to rezone from R-2 residential to light industrial. The Planning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings on the matter. The Granum North Twin boat landing project is in the works.

Committee Reports

Public Works-Riemenschneider: Under old business the downtown parking lot is going out for bids again. The DNR cross connection requirements were reviewed and City ordinances need to be updated. The new industrial park rezoning is coming up. The Capital Improvement Plan and associated budgets were presented to the Committee by Will.

Finance-Davis: The Committee met with the Towns regarding Fire Dept. capital project funding and the airboat purchase. The Towns want to move forward in the purchase and an agreement of understanding between the parties is being developed. There may be possible cost savings on the airboat purchase through the bidding process. Insurance issues with Centennial Hall were discussed and coverage reviewed. New insurance will provide a cost savings to the City as the City helps them pay the bill.

Planning Commission-Riemenschneider: The 2009 Comp Plan updates and revisions were discussed focusing on the housing element. The City still need mapping software so we may have to hire a consultant for that service. There is a concern from City leaders that there is a lack of housing for the growing workforce. A housing study performed by Will is proceeding and a survey will go out in April. Walkability policy alternatives and assessment were discussed along with enforcing current ordinances on curb & gutter, sidewalk installation, repair and replacement. Long reviewed proposed legislation affecting the City with the Commission.

New Business

Motion by Van Blaricom and seconded by Strobusch to grant a kennel License to Jake L Friederichs at 603 Riverside Blvd for four dogs.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Riemenschneider and seconded by Strobusch to approve a Class A Beer and Class A Liquor License for Smith Family Development LLC d/b/a Amery Discount Liquor at 1030 Cornwall Avenue.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

There were no alcohol operating license applications to act on.

Motion by Strobusch and seconded by Riemenschneider to approve a cigarette license for Smith Family Development LLC d/b/a Amery Discount Liquor at 1030 Cornwall Avenue.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Strohbusch and seconded by Davis to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Frances Duncanson, City Clerk