

AMERY CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS April 6, 2016

The Amery City Council met for a regular meeting on April 6th at City Hall. Mayor Kay Erickson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Jessica de la Cruz of the Amery Free Press, Bob Zank of WPCA, Larry Stelter, Justin Fischer of Baird, Judie Johnston, Sharon Paulson, and Jim Meyer.

Clerk Duncanson conducted roll call.

Joe Vierkandt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Myers and seconded by Strohbusch to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2016 City Council meeting.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Officers Reports:

Clerk-Treasurer Duncanson-Reported there were 815 voters at the Spring Election. The Organizational Meeting will be April 19th. Cardinal Glass lost the appeal of their manufacturing assessment to WI Dept. of Revenue. There are a series of Community Development Webinars coming up for members of the City Council, Planning Commission, and AEDC.

Police Chief Marson-Next week is tornado and severe weather awareness week. There will be testing of storm warning sirens and emergency plans for severe weather. The City designated storm shelter is Golden Age Manor. Strohbusch inquired if the Dept. has interest in applying for a COPS Grant.

DPW Director McCarty-Hydrants are being flushed and that may cause some temporary discoloration of water. There was a recent meeting with DOT regarding the entrance of the Granum boat landing. DOT prefers HW 46 be used as they do not want anything on Arlington. The soil samples are done and now that the ice is off the lake they can test the water depth. The closed landfill was inspected by the DNR. The landfill will open May 1st for only brush and clean lumber. McCarty reported the Dept. is working on filling the many potholes on streets this time of year. Green reported the North Park campground will have electricity installed on April 15th. The lots are laid out and ready to go and other work can be completed as the ground dries out. Commercial and high risk water cross connections are completed and reinspections are pending.

Library Director Nalen-Announced Youth Services Director Trisha Wehrenberg is leaving. Author Nicholas Butler of Eau Claire will be visiting the library soon. Statistically library usage is up over last year.

Fire Chief Koehler-The monthly report is broken down by Township. There are still a lot of hours spent in training. Burning permits are now available online at the City website. Grass fire season is upon us. There are 12 controlled burns going on. The Dept. received recognition for the North Star Council #9146 Explorers program for 30-years of developing young people.

Management Analyst-Will- The City has been named a Tree City USA and Bird City Wisconsin. There will be a birding walk with Bruce DeLong at York Park. The new Visitor's Guide is finished. Look for the Housing survey with your utility bill and on the website. The Walkability Committee is wrapping up this month with recommendations being made to the City Council. There was a meeting with DOT to gather information on walkability and traffic calming techniques.

Committee Reports:

Parks & Rec-Van Blaricom: The Committee saw a presentation from the Community Club for Phase 2 of the Michael Park development. The North Park Campground brochure was reviewed. Bee hives in the City were discussed but the Committee is not interested in expanding bee hives at this time. A recommendation was made to the Finance Committee to pursue purchasing two lots for park development.

Public Works-Riemenschneider: The Committee received an update on the DOT meeting regarding the Granum boat landing and walkability. There will be a pre-construction meeting soon on the Downtown parking lot project. RFPs for engineering for the Flag Park lift station are going out soon. The updated CIP plan was reviewed.

Finance-Vicker: The Committee made a recommendation to extend the Building Inspector contract for one year. The Airboat contracts are back from the Towns. Issues covered were the creation of TID #8 timeline, and debt consolidation and refinancing through a bond issue facilitated by Baird. The contract with G&K for floor mats and uniforms has been cancelled saving the City \$27,000 a year. Downtown Threads is helping the City with employee uniform needs. The Committee wants to meet with NW Communications regarding clarifying administration of the Cable franchise agreement. Polk County recently passed a Resolution changing how they settle with the City for delinquent utilities and special assessments. The Committee recommended a liquor license not be held for economic development purposes and the Farm Table and VFW have expressed interest in a Class B liquor license. There was a closed session on purchasing land and no motions were made. Myers reiterated nothing happens on any issue until the City Council acts on it.

Plan Commission-Riemenschneider The Commission met to study revisions to the fence and accessory structure ordinances.

New Business

Motion by Strohmusch and seconded by Myers to approve the Airboat Agreement with the Towns of Alden, Black Brook & Lincoln.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Davis and seconded by Vicker to approve the TIF 8 Creation Agreement with Robert W. Baird and Co.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Van Blaricom and seconded by Davis to approve a services agreement for Debt Consolidation and Refinancing with Robert W. Baird and Co.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Justin Fischer of Baird presented a graph visual of interest rates in the ten-year range. Savings through the debt consolidation and bond issue would be approximately \$17,000 annually. It will take a month to get through the process.

Motion by Strohbusch and seconded by Riemenschneider to approve the Debt Refinancing Resolution titled: RESOLUTION 2016-02 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND ESTABLISHING PARAMETERS FOR THE SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Vicker and seconded by Strohbusch to approve a Class B Beer & Liquor Combination License for The Alibi Bar LLC

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Van Blaricom and seconded by Strohbusch to approve an alcohol operating license for Jody Roe.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Motion by Strohbusch and seconded by Davis to adjourn at 6:28 p.m.

Ayes-6 Nays-0 Motion carried.

Frances Duncanson, City Clerk