

PURSUANT TO DUE CALL AND
NOTICE THEREOF, A REGULAR
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF FULDA WAS HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
FEBRUARY 5 , 2018 AT 6:30 P.M

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor J. Maertens, with the following present: Councilmembers J. Brown, C. Ouellette and T. Roberts.

Staff present: J. Burchill – City Clerk and P. Kenney – Police Chief.

Others present: David Baumhoefner, Darby Stewart and Jerry Johnson – Fulda Free Press

Ouellette moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve the agenda with the addition: Notice and Communications - Mediacom notice.

Motion carried unanimously.

Roberts moved and Ouellette seconded the MOTION approving the regular meeting minutes from January 3, 2018 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ouellette moved and Brown seconded the MOTION approving bills as presented for January, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

Murray County sent notice of a Conditional Use Permit for Darin & Shannon Henning for expansion of existing feedlot. The public hearing will be Feb. 15, 2018.

Nobles County SWCD will be hosting a meeting Feb. 12, 2018 at Key Largo about challenges with water and sewer infrastructures. Burchill and Frodermann will be attending the meeting.

Notice of a rate increase was received from Mediacom.

Brown reported on the SRTS status. Public input was received. A summary is included.

Roberts discussed numerous items in Frodermann's absence including: bids on a new pickup; LED bulb replacement proposal; pollution control report; and purchasing of a wastewater pump.

Roberts moved and Brown seconded the MOTION to approve the purchase of a 2018 Ford F-150 from Marthaler Ford in the amount of \$27,528.00 to replace the '97 Ford. Motion carried unanimously.

A number of bulbs have been replaced with LED and Nobles Cooperative Electric is offering a rebate of \$5 per bulb. Frodermann included a proposal of replacing of the bulbs in the remaining city buildings at our cost of \$10.00 per bulb. Total cost would be \$6,480 with \$5/bulb being returned in rebate. The consensus was to only replace bulbs as needed. One suggestion from Ouellette was to look into "corn lights".

The MN Pollution Control Agency Report was included for review. Any questions can be directed to Frodermann.

Discussion was had on a quote Frodermann received on a Houle pump. Last year, the fire department's pump was used and Frodermann noted he felt it was unsafe to use and would have to be pulled if there was a fire call. Council had additional questions about how many hours it would put on the lease tractor, why it is unsafe and what the cost would be on a pump similar to the fire dept. The item was tabled for additional information.

Ouellette attended a community initiatives meeting with Luke Isder and others. Some suggestions from the committee were: tax abatement on new homes; walking paths; upkeep on the city park – done by church groups; and fitness center with an indoor park.

Maertens requested that with Troje's absence/health issues that Ouellette be acting mayor for February and March.

Burchill noted that Marcine Elder plans to address the council at the March meeting about updating the cable school channel equipment. She estimates the cost will be around \$14,000. Discussion was had about how many view the channel and if it's feasible to spend the money to keep the channel. This is will be discussed further next month.

Burchill gave an update on the Small Cities Development Program. The grant is going well and at this time, SMOC has started a waiting list as the goal of 20 homes has been met.

Burchill shared that the family of Harold and Betty Haar donated \$1500 that they would like to see used for a bench in the park by the bandshell with a plaque in their memory. Ouellette moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to accept the donation to be used as a memorial to Harold and Betty Haar.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was had on the sidewalk snow removal for the city buildings. Nelson Landscaping is currently doing the snow removal if at least 2" of snow is received, but when there is a lesser snow event, staff is shoveling. No action was taken, but would be up for review for the next snow season.

Kenney shared that they are currently in negotiations with 4 Paws Pet Grooming in Slayton for boarding our dogs as large. They would like a 2 year contract between the 3 agencies in Murray County. Cost arrangements have not been agreed upon between the Fulda PD, Slayton PD and Murray County Sheriff's Office.

Discussion was had on the proposal from BKV Group to conduct a feasibility study for building a new fire hall vs. adding on the existing. The proposal was for \$8000 plus \$900 for travel expenses. The study would take 4 – 5 months to complete. Brown moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to accept the proposal from BKV Group for the feasibility study at the cost of \$8900.

Motion carried unanimously.

Reminder that the fire/amb/township meeting will be Feb 12 at 7:30 pm. Baumhoefner noted that the fire department will be requesting an increase from the township. Currently, they receive \$165 per section.

Baumhoefner noted that he has sent in a grant application for new extrication equipment. The total cost would be \$38,000 and would require a 5% match. The current equipment is not capable of cutting through new vehicles.

Discussion was had on the possibility of a water rate increase. The item was again tabled.

Maertens mentioned the Welcome to Fulda signs. He would like to proceed with ordering the signs.

Ouellette moved and Brown seconded the MOTION to appoint Jenny Winter to the EDA board.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ouellette moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve the Plum Creek Library System Agency agreement.
Motion carried unanimously.

Brown moved and Ouellette seconded the MOTION to approve the Expanded Supplemental Ambulance Payments attestation.
Motion carried unanimously.

The next regular council meeting will be Monday, March 5, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm.
Motion passed unanimously.

Julie Burchill
City Clerk

John Maertens
Mayor