

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 6 , 2017 AT 7:00 P.M

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor J. Maertens, and the following present: and Councilmembers J. Troje, J. Brown, C. Ouellette and T. Roberts.

Staff present: J. Burchill - City Clerk and Neil Frodermann – Public Works

Others present: Stacy Grothe, Nick Riley, Doc Schwarz, David Baumhoefner, Ted Winter and Norma Dittman - Fulda Free Press

Ted Winter and Doc Schwarz discussed the Depot remodeling and the grant they received from the legacy funds. The grant will provide an architect to determine the needed repairs and estimate of the cost to restore the Depot. SMSQ Architect & Historical firm should be starting the process in March/April. The Heritage also had a bill from Gass Trenching for the water and sewer hook-up to the building. They requested if the city could split the bill since the city has money in the budget for paint and windows for the Depot. The council determined since a fair amount of time has passed and the bill is already paid that the city can't reimbursement the Heritage Society for the past expense.

Discussion was had on the ongoing sewer problem at Stacy Grothe/Nick Riley's home. It was determined as a short term preventative to jet and camera the area every month or two, with the possibility of digging in the spring to determine the cause.

Maertens noted that the a meeting was held this morning with Ryan from MMUA in regards to the random drug/alcohol testing and policy along with answering some questions and provided some training materials. A minor adjustment will need to be added to the current policy and will bring back to the council at the March meeting.

Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Ouellette moved and Brown seconded the MOTION approving the regular meeting minutes from January 9, 2017 and special meeting, January 9, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION approving bills as presented for January, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

A donation was received for Eichten Park from the Eichten family. They noted they stopped in recently and thought the park looked good.

Discussion was had on Safe Routes to Schools. Brown indicated he will pursue this with the Fulda School District and Max Kaufmann from SRDC.

Brown gave an update on the West Lake Ave lights in that a purchase agreement has been sent to the company and recognized.

Troje recently spoke with B & K Designs and if the city is interested, he will make up some designs and costs. The council thought it would be a good idea to proceed.

Frodermann discussed the possibility of contracting with Murray County Land Improvement to jet/vac one-fourth of the city each year. They would charge \$175 per hour which includes 2 men per the hourly charge. The council requested for Frodermann or Huerkamp to get an estimate of the number of hours and bring back to the council.

After discussion, it was determined that there is need for purchase of equipment for employee safety when entering manholes. Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve the purchase of a sniffer, tripod and other equipment needed for safety up to \$6,000 - \$8,000 from sewer funds.

Motion carried unanimously.

Frodermann shared that Huerkamp talked with Gary Sell about refurbishing the Christmas lights. He was not interested and did not know of anyone else.

Burchill gave an update on Small Cities Development Program. At this point, SMOC has received 13 applications – 1 was over income and 1 backed out. The remaining 11 are moving forward and 3 projects about ready to start. SMOC is doing mailings to promote the program.

Burchill requested to attend the LMC Safety & Loss Regional meeting in Morton on April 5. Council agreed for her to attend.

Baumhoefner reminded that the annual township meeting with the fire department will be Monday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 pm. Maertens will attend to represent the council.

Baumhoefner shared a sketch for a new fire hall design, which is necessary to accommodate any newer trucks. Discussion was had on location, size and potential costs. Discussions will continue as more information becomes available.

Burchill shared information on the Christmas Lights. She had spoken with a couple different companies which currently have specials that would probably be cheaper in the long run than refurbishing the old ones. The new lights would all be LED C9 bulbs and would include new brackets. Both companies are flexible in shipping and payment. It will be reviewed at the March meeting.

Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve the adoption of the water supply plan that's been approved by the Dept. of Natural Resources.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Brown moved and Troje seconded the MOTION to approve the building permit for Casey's to add an addition of 16' to the south side of the building along with interior remodeling.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Maertens discussed the personnel policies and had some questions/comments:

Section 5 on overtime and comp time. The current policy states the employee can take the time off in the same pay period as straight time. Maertens stated that comp time should be time and half. Maertens will get further information and report back to the council.

Section 5 states paychecks will not be processed until all timesheets are turned into the City Clerk. Maertens stated that needs to be removed as it's not legal to withhold someone's paycheck because another employee didn't get their timesheet in.

Section 22 states that \$30 per day for meals will be allowed. Discussion followed as to what a fair amount would be. Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to approve changing the allowance for meals to \$35 per day.

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 24 discusses director of personnel, which the city doesn't have. The director personnel would most likely be the Mayor.

Section 25 - Family and Medical Leave Act. Maertens questioned if the City needed to have FMLA since we are less than 50 employees. He felt it could possibly be addressed in leave without pay instead. It also mentions City Administrator numerous times, but the City doesn't have a City Administrator and should be changed to Mayor or Director of Personnel.

Section 5 - Burchill also mentioned the VEBA amounts in the policy don't match the current deductions.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Troje moved and Roberts seconded the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 pm.

Motion passed unanimously.

Julie Burchill  
City Clerk

John Maertens  
Mayor