

City Council Proceedings

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 6, 2020. Mayor Staller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Pam Vissia, Brad Kehn, Susan Steele, Jim Hinckley, Terry Schuldt, and Jason Schurz. City employees, Eileen Sorsen, Chance Boyd, and Darin Cranny were also in attendance. Visitor present was J.P. Studeny, from SD Mail.

Vissia asked for an addition to the agenda. To talk about a bench donation to the City. Motion to approve agenda by Kehn, and seconded by Vissia. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There was no citizen input.

Vissia made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2019, Regular Meeting. Seconded by Schurz. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Vissia made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2019, Special Meeting. Seconded by Schurz. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Kehn made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2019, Special Meeting. Seconded by Hinckley. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Kehn made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 26, 2019, End of Year Special Meeting. Seconded by Vissia. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Kehn made a motion to approve payment of the following bills:

Aurora-Brule Rural Water—Dec. Water/debt Ret.--\$7,058.50; Central Electric—Dec. Wheeling fees--\$2,721.97; DENR—Annual Wastewater fee--\$750.00; DENR—2020 Water/Wastewater Cert.--\$24.00; Dept. of Energy—Dec. Power--\$16,786.32; East River—Dec. Wheeling--\$5,342.40; FP Mailing Solutions—Postage meter 12/20-3/19/20--\$89.85; GoldenWest—Dec. phone bills--\$385.06; M & L Repair—Shop supp.--\$25.33; McLeod's—Utl. Bill forms & envelopes--\$517.90; Plankinton Builders Supp.—Dec. supp./mat.--\$156.40; Planning & Develop. Distr. III—2020 Membership dues--\$1,148.00; Regarding Cards—Web-site Maint. Jan. 2020- Jan. 2021--\$500.00; Roadside C-Store—Dec. fuel--\$793.43; Scavenger's Journey—2020 sponsorship--\$250.00; S.D. Mail—Dec. Publishing--\$475.95; Steve's Welding—Water Truck Rep/maint.--\$136.45; Stuart C. Irby Co.—Electric Supplies--\$725.00; TrueNorth Steel—Culvert band--\$23.52.

Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

The City Council, Mayor and Employee dinner will be held at Commerce Street Grille on February 8, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. No City business will be conducted.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Hearing date to review and discuss alley vacates and Plat Map for Jeff Briggs Development is set for February 3, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Notices will be printed in SD Mail on January 16, and January 23, 2020.

The Plankinton Fire Department membership roll will be received in January, and entered on the February Council Minutes.

The City Election will be held on the 2nd Tuesday in April (April 14, 2020).

SD Mail will be putting ads in for the City- for Summer Lifeguards, Summer Handyperson (2), Cemetery mowing bids for Summer of 2020, and for Grassland bids for 2020. The bids will need to be at City Hall by 4:30 on Friday, January 31, 2020, and will be opened at the February 3, 2020 regular Council meeting. The Cropland contract is good until March 31, 2022.

Check authorization form for 2020 was signed by Mayor Staller, Council President, Vissia, Finance Officer, Sorsen, and Deputy Finance Officer, Casey Schmidt. The Mayor also authorized Finance Officer, Sorsen, to pay any regular monthly bills that would come due before a regular Council meeting, in order to avoid late fees. Steele made the motion to approve, and Hinckley seconded it. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The current phone system at City Hall is outdated, so the Finance Officer asked the Council to look over the one quote received for a new system. They would like to get another quote, so another company was asked to come in and look at what is needed. They will be sending in their quote soon. The Council will look over the quotes at the February 3 regular meeting.

Mayor Staller and Finance Officer, Sorsen, asked if two old, uncollectible utility bills could be written off, as per a recommendation from our last audit. They are Acct. #00-384-02-5, in the amount of \$530.01, and Acct. #00-3-05-8, in the amount of \$558.19. Hinckley made a motion to write off the two utility bills. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Mike Hohn family would like to supply a memorial bench to the City, probably for in front of the bank, in honor of Mike and Becky Hohn.

Mayor Staller moved to go into Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. Motion by Vissia, and second by Kehn to enter into Executive Session-Personnel, as per SDCL-1-25-2(1). All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor & Council exited Executive Session at 7:17 p.m., with Mayor Staller announcing that no action was taken.

The following is a list of current employees, and their hourly wage: Darin Cranny- \$22.65; Chance Boyd- \$24.00; Barry Geiman- \$20.03; Anna Klein (part-time)- \$11.00; Eileen Sorsen- \$21.07; and RayAnn Larson- \$12.00.

Cost of Living Raises-- Kehn made a motion to approve a 3% cost of living raise, for employees completing the 2019 calendar year, with an effective date of January 6, 2020. Pursuant to SDCL 6-1-10, the new hourly wages are: Darin Cranny- \$23.33; Chance Boyd- \$24.72; Barry Geiman- \$20.63; Anna Klein- \$11.33; Eileen Sorsen- \$21.70; and RayAnn Larson- \$12.36. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Chance Boyd's 1st year anniversary with the City was on Jan. 1, 2020. Hinckley made a motion to increase his wage by 50 cents an hour, for a new wage of \$25.22 an hour, beginning January 6, 2020. Steele seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Casey Schmidt's Deputy Finance Officer start-date was January 6, 2020, at \$16.00 hr. for 6-month probation. Then, \$16.50 an hr. after probationary review.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Staller led a discussion on the Briggs Development, pertaining to roads, lift station, water & sewer. City Utility Supt, Darin Cranny, was asked to get estimates on roads, mains, water & sewer, and a lift station for the development. A lift station is not in this year's budget. City would like to continue the discussion with City Attorney, Jim Taylor, on speaker phone at the February regular Council meeting. Mayor will contact Jim Taylor and Planning & Development Distr. III about this. Mayor Staller also will start looking at 5-year plan in March. He will not be here for the February 3 Council meeting. Council Pres., Vissia, will stand in.

City Maintenance Supt. Darin Cranny report that he would like to dispose of the old water truck chassis and excess iron. Signs for thin ice were erected in various flooded areas in town. Darin would like to purchase a 100-gallon fuel tank to carry diesel, as they have to currently drive the tractors to the DOT State shop to fill up. He said Dakota Pump has a yearly fee of \$750 to check the new Lagoon Pumps and service them. The Council said to do that, to protect our investment. Darin will get the contract by next meeting, for the Council to approve. He also mentioned that he would like to have some spare pumps to have on hand, especially in case of more flooding. He will get the quotes for those for the February 3. Council meeting.

Kehn made a motion to get H & R Salvage to get rid of the old water truck and excess iron. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

City Electric Supt., Boyd, is currently installing load-management controllers, and has 32 installed as of January 6. He replaced the control box at the lagoon during pump replacement. He set some poles and transformer for the house being moved into the Briggs Development, attended Transformer school, and all maintenance employees had some bucket truck safety training, in case anyone would need to help. He will be working with DGR to get our next underground phase figured out.

Finance Officer, Sorsen, is grateful to have an assistant after 3 months. Has been getting end of year reports done, and will be busy training Deputy Schmidt. Also, getting reports ready for the upcoming 2018-2019 Audit.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Signed: John J. Staller, Mayor John J. Staller

Attest: Eileen Sorsen, Finance Officer Eileen Sorsen