

## TRIMONT COUNCIL MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular meeting was duly held at the Trimont Community Building on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Thomas Eckmann, Council Member Sterling Adamson, Council Member Thomas Hage, Council Member Bruce Borntreger, and Council Member Troy Schmidtke.

Mayor Thomas Eckmann presided over the meeting.

No comments were made during the community comment period.

Fire Chief Ryan Kuehl was present with a department report. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Troy Schmidtke and carried to hire Jacob Sinn as a volunteer firefighter.** Kuehl advised he is working with the League to update the hiring process. The goal is to draft a policy that will be handed out to interested candidates that specifies department requirements and laws that pertain to background checks, along with issues that would disqualify someone from being hired. A draft will be brought to an upcoming meeting. It was decided to put the department on a hiring freeze until then.

Council Member Adamson arrived at the meeting at 5:34 P.M.

Police Chief Ross Wiggin reviewed the department report.

Public Works Supervisor Mike Paulson provided a department report. A watermain break was repaired recently and a service line had to be replaced in conjunction with the work. An estimate was provided for the cost to repair the fence at the ballfield.

**Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to approve an increase of the township fire contract rate to \$150 per section.**

Financial information was reviewed including outstanding debt, reserve funds, and nursing home funds and debt owed to the City General Fund and EDA. Discussion included planning for future equipment needs.

Bo Schultz addressed the council regarding interest in City owned land on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE to expand his business. Discussion included the area and number of acres available, required setbacks to the treatment plant and wellhouse, water and sewer service locations, fire hydrant locations, and cost estimates for the land and infrastructure. Information will be gathered from engineers and the department of health for further discussion at the next meeting.

Council Member Hage provided a parks committee update from a recent meeting. It was their recommendation to temporarily repair and open one restroom in the shelter house, and then to look for grants to renovate for better accessibility and look at an exterior entrance. The committee will work on ideas and get cost estimates to consider. It was recommended that a tree maintenance amendment be added to the nuisance ordinance to manage unsafe and diseased trees. Those who do not maintain their trees could face fines and the cost to have the work done for them would be assessed to the property taxes. The city attorney will be consulted to draft an ordinance to consider.

The committee also plans to look at funding opportunities for playground equipment and a restroom for Memorial Park.

Ambulance Director Ron Shade provided a department report. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to hire Nic Miller as a First Responder, and EMT once certified.**

In old business, Mayor Eckmann advised he is still working on getting in touch with the school regarding construction of a storage shed for the ballfield. In addition to a shed and a new fence, the field needs ag lime, lighting upgrades, and a new hydrant. It was decided to invite Representative Bob Gunther to the March meeting to discuss funding opportunities.

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the sale of Lots 7 through 11, Block 4, Original Triumph, along with approval of a development agreement for the proposed office building, to United AgTech LLC for \$4,166.67.**

**Motion made by Council Member Sterling Adamson, seconded by Council Member Troy Schmidtke and carried to approve the sale of Lot 6, Block 4, Original Triumph, to Two Broke Girls Bar LLC for \$833.33.**

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to repay the nursing home EDA loan for \$100,000 using funds remaining in that checking account, and also to repay their \$60,000 General Fund loan using those funds.**

**Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to adopt the following Resolution**

**Resolution 2019-02  
Resolution Approving Contribution**

After further consideration, based upon current and past billing practice and policy, it was decided to continue to bill Duck's Bar as a separate commercial service. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to approve removal of penalties that have accrued on the bill on Donald Holtz's apartment building while the matter was under discussion.**

**Motion made by Council Member Sterling Adamson, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to approve the date set by Martin County for the Local Board of Appeal Hearing, April 18, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.**

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Troy Schmidtke and carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:**

- Approval of minutes from the January 28, 2019 meeting as printed.**
- Approval of City's January, 2019 financial statements as presented.**
- Approval to pay the following bills:**

Trimont Council Minutes

February 25, 2019

Page 3

Advance Auto	\$ 23.27
Amborn Lumber	\$ 360.00
American Welding	\$ 125.54
B & D Repair	\$ 286.85
Blue Cross	\$ 3466.04
Bolton & Menk	\$ 900.00
Borntrager Auto	\$ 54.74
Breanna Nielsen	\$ 160.00
Cardmember Service	\$ 128.36
CliftonLarsonAllen	\$ 1000.00
Delta Dental	\$ 124.50
EMS Custom Ed	\$ 325.00
Expert T Billing	\$ 240.00
Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70
Feder Mechanical	\$ 188.81
Fleet & Farm Supply	\$ 166.92
Frontier Communication	\$ 786.92
Gopher One	\$ 2.70
Hawkins Inc.	\$ 1334.59
Heiman Fire	\$ 384.98
Holtz Lawn Care	\$ 100.00
Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4181.34
KHC Construction	\$25000.00
League of MN Cities	\$ 1125.00
Martin County Star	\$ 124.80
Midwest Fire	\$ 687.09
Midwest Garage Door	\$ 245.00
Midwest IT	\$ 178.00
Mike Paulson	\$ 20.00
MN Department of Health	\$ 534.00
Minnesota Energy	\$ 2371.34
MN Child Support	\$ 137.27
MN DNR	\$ 178.70
MN Pollution Control	\$ 23.00
MN Rural Water Assn.	\$ 240.00
MN Valley Testing Labs	\$ 645.00
Moore & Ace	\$ 169.27
National Child ID	\$ 214.50
Ninety Four Services	\$ 2285.00
Nuway Coop	\$ 1424.38
Poppe's Store	\$ 10.00
Postmaster	\$ 118.30
Quill	\$ 290.04
South Central Electric	\$ 4174.24
Streichers	\$ 185.95
Town Center Super Valu	\$ 73.56
Triumph State Bank	\$ 513.70
US Able Life	\$ 4.20

Verizon	\$ 506.79
Wex Bank	\$ 422.05

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntrager and carried to allow the Trimont Area Women to place a portable restroom in the park at their cost for the Easter egg hunt.**

In other business, Council Member Adamson and Supervisor Paulson will contact Bolton & Menk to move forward with obtaining flow meters to have them in place when thawing begins as part of the I & I reduction program. When weather allows, they will look at tiles running in the southeast quadrant that may be interfering with the sewer collection system. Bolton & Menk continues to work on a long-term plan for the sewer system. Also discussed was concern over sump pumps that are illegally connected to the sewer system. Inspections will be done as time allows and fines will be assessed when violations are found and are not permanently corrected in a timely manner. A notice will be placed on Facebook and a letter will be mailed to all residents and businesses to advise them of the ordinance requirements.

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Troy Schmidtke and carried to adjourn.**

Signed, Thomas Eckmann, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk