

TRIMONT COUNCIL MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular meeting was duly held at the Trimont Community Building on the 16th day of September, 2019 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Troy Schmidtke, Council Member Sterling Adamson, Council Member Thomas Hage, Council Member Bruce Bortrager, and Council Member Brian Krumwiede.

Mayor Troy Schmidtke presided over the meeting.

No comments were made during the community comment period.

Police Chief Ross Wiggin reviewed the department report. Options for a new squad were discussed to fit the cost into the 2020 budget.

Mike Paulson reviewed public works department business. About a third of curbs still need to be painted. Approval was given to wait and paint them all next year. Trimming trees that hang over city streets was discussed. It was decided to hand deliver notice to owners with trees in need of trimming, giving until the end of October to do the work. After that, a contractor will be hired and the cost will be billed to the property owner, with unpaid charges assessed to property taxes. Jon Holtz was present to go over the water and sewer connection to his building. The cost to cut into the manhole is \$550 because there is no sewer main in the area. Council agreed the city would pay that cost. The city portion of the work will be completed this fall, with the connection fees due at that time. Holtz requested to have his cost for services assessed to the property, as will the water filtration assessment was not previously paid on the property. The city attorney drafted a petition for improvement and an assessment agreement for Holtz to approve the assessments. **Motion made by Council Member Bruce Bortrager, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to move forward with the city portion of the project, to assess \$1000 for water filtration and the cost incurred by Holtz for the connections to the property taxes for a term of 10 years at 6.5% interest.** A brief discussion took place regarding a potential project along 7th Avenue North East and how water and sewer services could be provided to the property. The library roof continues to leak and the chimney is crumbling. Water also gets in above the back door around the A/C. An estimate is pending for repair of the roof. Painting and carpet cleaning will be needed after the leaks are fixed. Joint Powers has purchased a new camera and the cost to Trimont is \$1080. **Motion made by Council Member Bruce Bortrager, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to sell the surplus generator from the wastewater plant for \$900.** Further discussion took place regarding the software upgrade approved last month that is needed to read new water meters. A new radio and laptop or tablet will be needed once the software is upgraded, at an estimated cost of \$3600. The upgrade will be delayed until new meters are needed.

Fire Chief Ryan Kuehl addressed the council regarding department business. There are three open slots and gear for new hires will cost an estimated \$7500. Kuehl recommended a portion of the cost be added to the 2020 budget. Firefighter and officer wages were also discussed. Increases proposed were \$18 an hour for firefighters, \$1500 for the chief, \$300 for each assistant and the secretary. This would bring the department in line with the ambulance. The city contributes \$100 annually to the relief association for each firefighter to help fund retirement. An increase to \$200-\$250 was proposed. The requests will be considered further when the budget is reviewed and the proposed levy adopted at a special meeting on September 25th.

Ambulance Chief Ron Shade was present to provide additional information about the Active 911 communication service. The department will begin using on a 3-month free trial.

Chamber Secretary Brenda Nielsen was present to request use of the Triumph Hall at no cost for the fall banquet. **Motion made by Council Member Sterling Adamson, seconded by Council Member Bruce Bortrager and carried to approve the request.** The chamber would like to begin using the marquee at the hall. They are having letters made to use in addition to those owned by the city, and are buying a light to have installed by Kuehl's. The chamber will be responsible for use of the marquee. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Bortrager and carried to approve the proposal.**

Discussion took place regarding utility billing of apartments. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Bortrager and carried to bill apartments as residential for sewer service, making them all uniform beginning with October bills.**

The process used to collect delinquent utility bills was reviewed to consider alternatives that would be less costly and time consuming. It was decided to get set up to take credit card payments, to revise the shut off letter to require payment by Noon to avoid disconnection, and to require payment for reconnection by 2 P.M. to have water reconnected that day. Reconnections will not be made after regular business hours, or on weekends or holidays.

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Bortrager, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to accept the three-year audit proposal from Burkhardt and Burkhardt.

The 2020 proposed budget and levy were reviewed. It was decided to add this matter to the agenda of the special meeting at 5:00 P.M. on September 25, 2019.

Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Sterling Adamson and carried to adopt the following Resolutions

**Resolutions 2019-15 and 2019-16
Resolutions approving contributions**

Ordinance 2019-06 was considered for introduction to compensate elected officials for attendance at committee meetings. Other meetings and conferences could be considered for compensation upon request and approval by the full council. The Ordinance was introduced by Council Member Thomas Hage. It will be considered for adoption at the October regular meeting, and if adopted, would take effect following the next municipal election.

A zoning permit application from Gary & Deb Jellema was reviewed for removal of a storage shed and installation of a larger one in the same area. The location would not meet the required side setback, so a new location was selected. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Bortrager and carried to approve the permit.**

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntrager, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to adopt the following Resolution

**Resolution 2019-17
Resolution approving tax forfeited property**

Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntrager and carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

**Approval of minutes from the August 19, 2019 meeting as printed.
Approval of City's August, 2019 financial statements as presented.
Approval to pay the following bills:**

Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 2502.93
Bradford Flohrs	\$ 222.14
Breanna G Nielsen	\$ 80.00
Cardmember Services	\$ 1102.28
Casey's	\$ 122.35
Core & Main	\$ 304.02
Crystal Valley Cooperative	\$ 762.22
D & S Trophies	\$ 30.00
Delta Dental	\$ 74.70
Doug Fuller Construction	\$ 1140.00
Expert T Billing	\$ 420.00
Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70
Fleet & Farm	\$ 41.94
Frontier Communications	\$ 727.09
Gloria Schmitz	\$ 50.00
Gopher State One Call	\$ 14.85
Hanson Fabrication	\$ 250.00
Hawkins Inc.	\$ 3451.94
Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4228.01
Indoff Inc.	\$ 202.33
Itron Inc.	\$ 1149.60
Janitors Closet	\$ 58.36
Kirby Built Sales	\$ 1964.03
Kuehl's Electric	\$ 150.30
League of MN Cities	\$ 951.00
Martin County Sheriff	\$ 90.00
Martin County Star	\$ 20.00
Midwest Asphalt	\$ 4995.00
Midwest IT	\$ 248.75
MN Child Support	\$ 175.80
MN Mayors Assn	\$ 30.00
Moore & Ace	\$ 163.68
Nuway	\$ 1163.63
Pearson Bros.	\$ 46,027.37
Poppe's Car Wash	\$ 15.00

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Postmaster	\$ 120.05
Quill	\$ 405.06
Ronald Shade	\$ 1005.40
Schwicker's	\$ 640.64
St. Cloud State University - MHSRC	\$ 435.00
Town Center Super Valu	\$ 49.14
Triumph State Bank	\$ 513.70
UC Laboratory	\$ 263.70
USA Bluebook	\$ 106.16
Usable Life	\$ 5.60
Verizon	\$ 439.40
West Martin Joint Powers	\$ 1080.00
Wex Bank	\$ 538.75

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntrager, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to adjourn.

Signed, Troy Schmidtke, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk