

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 December, 2019 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

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

The following members were absent: Council Member Sterling Adamson.

Mayor Troy Schmidtke presided over the meeting.

No comments were made during the community comment period.

Chief Ross Wiggin reviewed the Police Department report. The new squad is ordered for spring delivery.

Public Works Supervisor Mike Paulson reviewed the department report. Repair work at the Triumph Hall is complete so it can be put back in use. The work was less extensive than anticipated. The carpet still needs to be cleaned and estimates are coming for the cost to replace it with hard flooring when possible. The control board at the wastewater plant has failed several times recently, setting off alarms. It might be due to power fluctuations. If the board is bad, it is obsolete and would need to be upgraded at an estimated cost of \$7K-\$10K. The supplier is coming to look at it this week. The purchase of a snowblower was requested at an estimated cost of \$750 to use at all City buildings and facilities. Employees have been using their own equipment for this work. There is money in this year's buildings fund for the purchase. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the purchase as proposed.**

Discussion took place regarding an outstanding Small Cities Development grant that is due for repayment to the city. It was decided to have the city attorney draft a letter to require the house be put up for sale at this time to avoid foreclosure.

The time being 6:00 P.M., the Truth in Taxation Meeting was called to order to consider the 2020 levy and budget. Council Member Hage commented on the cost of living wage increase included in the proposed budget. He would like to see it be a set dollar amount for everyone, rather than a percentage increase, and he would also like wages be frozen for another year, but with the assurance that an increase of some kind would be made next year. Council Member Borntreger agreed with those terms. Attention turned to additions made to the fire department budget in September. It was decided to reduce the annual retirement contribution from \$250 per member to \$175 and to remove the wage increases that had been added. \$7500 budgeted for turnout gear was left in the budget. Also discussed was how to pay for the library roof repair of \$9,072. It was decided to split the cost between 2019 and 2020 by paying \$5,000 for materials from the 2019 building budget in the General Fund, and using money transferred from the Raw Water Fund to pay the remainder in 2020. Pay for election judges will increase from \$10 to \$12 per hour as is budgeted. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the levy of \$351,772, a 5.4% increase over 2019, and budget as amended above.**

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to approve the following Resolutions

**Resolutions 2019-27, 2019-28, 2019-29, 2019-30
Resolutions Approving Contributions**

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede and carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approval of minutes from the November 18, and December 2, 2019 meetings as printed.

Approval of City's November, 2019 financial statements as presented.

Approval to pay the following bills:

American Grant Writers	\$ 179.00	B & D Repair	\$ 17.50
Brenda Nielsen	\$ 46.40	Cardmember Services	\$ 395.23
Carquest Auto	\$ 379.06	Carr's Tree Service	\$ 14,890.00
Delta Dental	\$ 74.70	Expert T Billing	\$ 300.00
Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70	Fleet & Farm	\$ 337.69
Frontier Communications	\$ 740.72	Gloria Schmitz	\$ 50.00
Gopher State One Call	\$ 14.85	GPS Generator Svs.	\$ 1510.00
Graham Tire	\$ 761.00	Hach	\$ 407.23
Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4173.89	Indoff Inc.	\$ 78.90
Kirby Built	\$ 948.32	Kuehl's Electric	\$ 1558.38
Midwest IT Systems	\$ 257.25	MN Ambulance Assn.	\$ 175.00
MN Child Support System	\$ 175.80	Minnesota Energy	\$ 928.11
MN State Fire Dept. Assn.	\$ 175.00	Moore and Ace	\$ 640.32
Poppe's Car Wash	\$ 10.00	Postmaster	\$ 118.30
Quill	\$ 106.58	Riteway Business Forms	\$ 186.00
Snyder Tree Service	\$ 2025.00	State of Minnesota	\$ 8.00
Town Center Super Valu	\$ 24.57	Triumph State Bank	\$ 525.70
UC Labs	\$ 1255.50	US Postal Service	\$ 235.00
Verizon Wireless	\$ 310.74	Volunteer FF Benefit Assn.	\$ 11.00
Wex Bank	\$ 532.14	Zachary Anderson	\$ 720.00
Ziegler Cat	\$ 33.89		

Ambulance Director Ron Shade addressed the council regarding purchase of the cot lift system that was proposed at the last meeting. Department Members agreed to pursue grants to cover the cost prior to purchasing it. \$4,100 has been raised so far. There is an additional installation cost of \$1,800 that will be paid by the relief association. Ron will coordinate donations obtained by the department with grant applications submitted by city staff to keep track of the amount raised. Image Trend, the software used for ambulance runs and billing, is going to be upgraded as of January 1st. It will provide advanced reporting options and can be used for tracking payroll. Also discussed was the rates for service currently in place. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to increase the base rate to \$750, the mileage rate to \$15/mile, and the no transport/lift assist run charge to \$150, effective January 1, 2020.**

Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede and carried to hire Jacob Scheff as a volunteer firefighter.

In other business, an offer was received from an individual wanting to purchase a city owned lot on Main Street East. They would maintain the property for now and then plan to build a home there within the next several years. The offer was tabled for further consideration. Council Member Hage advised the council of the status of property that was damaged by fire last month. There was no insurance on the house, so it has yet to be determined how it will get cleaned up.

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

Signed, Troy Schmidtke, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk