

## TRIMONT COUNCIL MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular meeting was duly held at the Trimont Community Building, and also remotely via Zoom, on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

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

Mayor Troy Schmidtke presided over the meeting.

No comments were made during the community comment period.

Roger Kienholz and Bob Raue from Crystal Valley Coop addressed the council to discuss a proposed business expansion with the addition of a feed mill south of the elevator. The area is currently zoned Ag and would need to be rezoned to Industrial. Truck traffic would be routed on the property rather than Third Avenue. The modern design would mitigate dust and water would not be required in the production process. The board is expected to make a decision in November. The council looks forward to working with them on the project.

Dennis and Kelli Harder addressed the council with residential development ideas for a few City owned properties. They are interested in building a 3-unit town home on the old school lot, and the council agreed to look into funding mechanisms for such projects. They also have interest in property at 221 Beech Street East, to remodel the house and put it on the market. The house was scheduled for demolition due to a fire. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to sell the property to Dennis and Kelli Harder for \$1,000, giving them two years to complete the work as proposed.**

Police Chief Ross Wiggin presented the department report. A portion of the FEMA grant received last month needs to be repaid. It was overpaid by 25% due to a calculation error. STS will be picking up appliances from the vacant city owned properties as soon as they are allowed to return to work. The house burn on the Reese property is getting scheduled as training for the fire department. Officers have been watching the school zone for enforcement of safety concerns in that area. The old squad is ready to be sold and will be offered for bids, possibly on MinnBid. A minimum bid of \$2,500 was set by the council.

Ocie Nelson addressed the council related to a liquor license application for Brews and Q's. She stated they will begin working on repair of the roof and rain gutters shortly, and the property taxes are scheduled to be paid soon. City utilities have been paid. She would like to be open for Halloween. The City attorney advised that Chief Wiggin should perform background checks on two managers listed in the LLC documents. Authorization forms were provided to Nelson. She asked for assurance that the license will be approved before she spends money repairing the property and prior to obtaining liability insurance. A special meeting was set for Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:30 P.M., to further discuss the license.

Mike Paulson provided a public works department update. An iPad for the department to use for remote training and meetings is included in the CARES spending proposals. A budget of \$700 is listed for the iPad and a case. Approval was requested and given to purchase additional iCloud storage for .99 per month.

The department needs a portable torch and the cost will be obtained for further discussion. A list of public works job duties was provided to the council as requested. Joint Powers business was discussed. A quote was obtained to hire Hydro Klean to do jetting work to compare it to the average cost to the city to use the joint powers jetter truck, to see which is more affordable over time. The cost for Hydro to jet one third of the system per year was about the same as it would be to use the JP truck at the new rates that are proposed, plus there is the added cost of fuel and city staff time. Cleaning catch basins and leaf pickup still need to be considered, and that could be hired out as well, or equipment could be purchased to do that work for much less than the cost of a jetter. Paulson will obtain the cost to clean catch basins from Beemer Companies for further discussion. The information will be shared with other JP cities to consider before making a decision on the purchase of a new jetter truck. In other matters, Council was advised the operating screen quit working at the water treatment plant so they can't monitor the plant. The operating system is obsolete and a replacement is estimated to cost \$10,000. This will be discussed further at the October 27<sup>th</sup> special meeting. The applicant for the temporary public works position that was advertised is still interested so the personnel committee will meet with him to discuss the job. An estimate of \$21,215 was received from Fast Flooring for the cost to replace the water damaged wood floor at the Triumph Hall. There is asbestos present that would need to be removed as well. The cost to repair the floor instead was not available. The information will be shared with the insurance company to find out how to proceed.

Ambulance Director Nathan Vrieze addressed the council to request permission to purchase an iPad Pro and a shock proof case for approximately \$900 to replace the aging Laptop used in the ambulance. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede and carried to approve the purchase.** He advised there are five people taking upcoming EMT training for the department.

Farmers State Bank submitted a request for the City to subordinate an SCDP loan to allow the borrower to refinance. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the subordination request for Cory and Gretchen Olson.**

**Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntreger, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to adopt the following resolutions**

**Resolutions 2020-34 and 2020-35  
Resolutions approving CARES Act Fund Expenditures**

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the list of CARES Act spending appropriations as presented, including wages to be paid in the November 6<sup>th</sup> payroll for members of the ambulance department who took COVID-19 training.**

**Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to adopt the following resolution**

**Resolution 2020-32  
Resolution approving contribution**

**Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borntrager, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede and carried to adopt the following resolution**

**Resolution 2020-33**

**Resolution designating precinct polling place**

**Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede and carried to approve a new contract with Midwest IT for 2021.**

Council Member Hage agreed to contact Brenda Nielsen regarding a consulting agreement to manage outstanding grants for consideration at the October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

**Approval of minutes from the September 15 and September 21, 2020 meetings as printed.**

**Approval of financial statements from August and September, 2020 as presented.**

**Approval of zoning permit applications from: Shane Schofield and Ocie Nelson – as amended to remove ramp from public sidewalk.**

**Approval to pay the following bills:**

Advanced Health, Safety	\$ 14,560.00	Advance Auto Parts	\$ 11.18
Alex Air Apparatus	\$ 9003.00	Amborn Lumber	\$ 140.42
Banyon Data	\$ 1785.00	Beemer Companies	\$ 7898.70
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 2689.67	Bolton & Menk	\$ 3920.00
Bound Tree	\$ 48.79	Cardmember Svs.	\$ 616.63
Costello, Carlson, Butzon	\$ 1736.00	Delta Dental	\$ 74.70
Expert T Billing	\$ 390.00	Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70
Farmers State Bank	\$ 10,043.83	Frontier Comm.	\$ 716.84
Galls	\$ 567.00	Gopher St. One Call	\$ 16.20
Hawkins	\$ 10.00	Homeland Security	\$ 1052.98
Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4292.77	Indoff	\$ 121.64
Kuehl's Electric	\$ 191.22	League of MN Cities	\$ 1131.12
League Ins. Trust	\$ 33,177.00	Martin Co. Auditor	\$ 738.00
Martin Co. Recorder	\$ 1.65	Martin Co. Sheriff	\$ 180.00
Martin Co. Star	\$ 30.80	Midwest IT	\$ 700.75
MN Ambulance Assn .	\$ 175.00	MN Energy	\$ 270.80
MN Mayors Assn.	\$ 30.00	Moore and Ace	\$ 575.64
MTI Distributing	\$ 105.38	New Ulm Public Util.	\$ 14.64
NuWay KH Coop	\$ 1002.82	Paulson Heating	\$ 1063.28
Pest Pro	\$ 192.87	Poppe's Car Wash	\$ 10.00
Postmaster	\$ 117.60	Quill	\$ 327.76
Sheila Denton	\$ 143.00	South Central Elec.	\$ 4535.13
SEH Engineering	\$ 2943.50	Trimont Fire Relief	\$ 20,292.26
Triumph State Bank	\$ 513.70	Troy Schmidtke	\$ 517.67
UC Laboratory	\$ 818.85	USable Life	\$ 5.60
Wex Bank	\$ 420.71	WW Goetsch	\$ 812.45

In other business, a letter will be sent to a property owner who reportedly removed a public sidewalk without having obtained a permit to do so. The November work session will not be held due to the General Election on that day. It was decided to use a base of gravel and rock under the new ballfield storage shed.

**Motion made by Council Member Brian Krumwiede, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to adjourn.**

Signed, Troy Schmidtke, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk