

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 16th day of November, 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.

During the Community Comment period, Justin Lubben addressed the council regarding a letter he received related to replacement of a sidewalk on his property. Council Member Hage agreed to look at the property.

The Election Abstract from Martin County was reviewed for the purpose of canvassing the votes cast in the General Election on November 3, 2020. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to approve the elections returns as certified by Martin County.**

Police Chief Ross Wiggin presented the department report. Discussion took place regarding possible use of a portion of funds from the sale of the old squad for a bus for SWAT. Further consideration will be given once it is sold. Due to the pandemic, two employees will lose vacation hours at the end of the year because of the limit in the amount that can be carried over. Approval was given to allow carry over of all accrued vacation hours this year. Shop with a cop will still take place this year, but there will be no after party.

Fire Chief Ryan Kuehl provide the department report. The FEMA grant application was denied again, so the department needs to find alternative funding for essential equipment. Discussion took place regarding how much equipment is needed now and how to pay for it. Firm numbers will be brought to the December meeting for consideration.

Public Works Supervisor Mike Paulson reviewed the department report. When Bio-solids were pumped recently the pipes plugged again with rags. They will need to be cleaned out by spring. The ordinance for snow emergencies was also reviewed. No changes were made for the upcoming season, but discussion will continue for possible revisions next winter.

Farmers State Bank provided a proposal to the city for farm land that can be purchased via contract for deed for the upcoming sewer pond project. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntrager and carried to proceed with the purchase of the land as proposed.**

Discussion took place regarding adding a buy-back provision to the deed for the Dahle property that is being sold to Dennis and Kelli Harder. It was agreed by all parties that if the property is not in livable condition and on the market within two years of their having taken possession, a monthly fine of \$100 will be payable to the city.

Bill Helget with Bolton and Menk provided an emailed update regarding the Highway 4 trail project. Mayor Schmidtke will contact him to discuss work the city needs to get done as part of the planning process.

Renewal of the employee Blue Cross health plan was discussed. There will be an 8.85% increase in the premium in 2021.

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

**Resolution 2020-39
Resolution approving CARES Act funds expenditure**

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

**Resolutions 2020-36, 2020-37, 2020-38
Resolutions adopting assessment for unpaid charges**

Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntrager and carried to approve an increase in sewer rates effective January 1, 2021, per the PFA loan schedule. The base rate will increase from \$11.92 to \$12.16 and the usage rate will go from \$11.14 to \$11.36 per 1000 gallons.

Certificates of Deposit with Edward Jones have matured and options to reinvest the funds were considered. It was decided to invite financial advisor Dan Hamlet to the December meeting to discuss recommendations.

League of MN Cities Insurance is waiting to settle on the water damage claim for the Triumph Hall to find out if the wood floor can be repaired and what the cost would cost. They are looking for a service provider to make that determination. Mike Paulson agreed to call the adjuster to discuss the matter.

An estimate was considered for records destruction for the city. Approval was given to hire Shred-it to perform the service at a cost of \$642.

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

- Approval of minutes from the October 19 and October 27, 2020 meetings as printed.**
- Approval of financial statements from October, 2020 as presented.**
- Approval of zoning permit applications from: Robert Cassens.**
- Approval to pay the following bills:**

Active911	\$ 416.00	Alex Air Apparatus	\$ 1790.00
Betty Connors	\$ 228.00	Blue Cross	\$ 2689.67
Bolton & Menk	\$ 6133.50	Borntrager Auto	\$ 38.00
Bound Tree	\$ 56.00	Cardmember Svs.	\$ 1509.49
Chris Wohlford	\$ 180.00	Delta Dental	\$ 74.70
D & S Trophies	\$ 438.70	Diane Persson	\$ 204.00
Expert T Billing	\$ 90.00	Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70
Farmers State Bank	\$ 6.52	Frontier Comm.	\$ 735.29

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Freightliner Truck Center	\$ 197.92	Galls	\$ 1322.91
Gopher State One Call	\$ 8.10	Hawkins	\$ 10.00
Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4320.99	Indoff	\$ 18.90
Kelly Kuehl	\$ 81.75	Kevin Hilgendorf	\$ 63.02
Kuehl's Electric	\$ 75.00	Lacey Schmidtke	\$ 150.00
League Ins. Trust	\$ 1443.00	Martin Co. Auditor	\$ 381.60
M.R. Paving	\$ 47,376.00	Midwest Asphalt	\$ 6981.00
Midwest IT	\$ 1932.49	MN Dept. of Health	\$ 823.00
Minnesota West	\$ 9431.46	MN Energy	\$ 692.08
MN State Fire Dept. Assn.	\$ 175.00	Moore and Ace	\$ 375.61
MTI Distributing	\$ 303.47	Motorola Solutions	\$ 4610.96
Poppe's Car Wash	\$ 10.00	Postmaster	\$ 119.00
Quill	\$ 59.96	River Bend Bus.	\$ 61.25
Robin White	\$ 180.00	Sarah Gwin	\$ 80.90
Triumph State Bank	\$ 513.70	Verizon	\$ 382.67
Welcome TV	\$ 105.00	West Bend Mutual	\$ 100.00
Wex Bank	\$ 536.81		

In other business, information was shared regarding a meal distribution event that Lutheran Social Services will be holding at the Trimont Community Building on November 24th.

Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to adjourn.

Signed, Troy Schmidtke, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk