

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF FOSSTON, POLK COUNTY MINNESOTA
NOVEMBER 12, 2013

The regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fosston, Polk County Minnesota was held in council chambers on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Offerdahl with the following members present: Carlson, Veum, Dufault and Lambert. Also present was Dave Larson, Dean Vikan, Scott Christen and Lee Cariveau.

Motion was made by Veum seconded by Lambert to approve the agenda with the following modification: Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 1) Scott Christen here on behalf of the Lions Club to discuss Berge Park Pond Improvements.

Motion was made by Carlson seconded by Dufault to approve consent agenda items A and B. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- A) To approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 14, 2013 as per copies furnished each member.
- B) To approve Accounts Payable Bill Listing #13-11 in the amount of \$78,861.25 and AP Bill Listing #13-11A in the amount of \$109,233.97.

COMMITTEES/BOARDS/COMMISSION:

Streets/Sanitation/Utilities: Dave Larson reported on matters pertaining to his departments:

- ✓ Larson stated that we lost a good employee – Jay Johnson who will be missed. We will be interviewing to fill this position, probably next week.
- ✓ Some work on the cable system is being done now.
- ✓ Looking at future upgrades to the gas system.
- ✓ We now have phosphorus limits and with 75 trips around the ponds with chemical those limits were met and dumping has begun.
- ✓ Work on the lift station in the industrial park continues
- ✓ Thein Well was here to conduct the well inspections and that went well.
- ✓ An underground wire burned off on the south side a couple of weeks ago.

Community/Economic Development:

- ✓ The FEDA board met today. Part of the discussion included the Johnson Avenue Redevelopment Projects.

Airport: Lucken and Veum reported on an email received from our regional engineer that includes future planning for upgrades.

Star Committee:

- ✓ Laurel reported that the Manufacturer/Business Appreciation was well attended.
- ✓ Light up the Night is on November 22nd as well as the Lefse Fest.

Motion was made by Veum seconded by Carlson to approve the Closing Certificate confirming the City's continuing involvement relating to the Power Sales Agreement with NMPA. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Lambert seconded by Dufault to call for a public hearing on December 9th at 5:00 p.m. as it pertains to the Application for Amendment to Zoning Ordinance from Larry and Stephanie Roed. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Lee Cariveau of Widseth Smith Nolting updated the council on various projects:

Second Street South & Second Street North Projects:

- ✓ We do not have to go through the full environmental report.
- ✓ We're looking at PFA as a possible funding source for this project.

Alley Project:

- ✓ BNSF is now requiring us to put up a chain link fence. Cariveau noted that the time frame given for that could be during the time the ground is still frozen.

FIT Trail:

- ✓ Last month we were going to see about tying this project in with the Erskine project and perhaps get better pricing. At Erskine's council meeting they chose not to team up with Fosston.
- ✓ There are still a couple of property owners along the FIT trail that aren't willing to give easements. We do have a couple of alternatives that will be worked on – moving into wetlands, terminating the trail, going through eminent domain. We'll wait and see how the appraisals come back.

Council considered the revised Real Estate and Sale Agreement for the purchase of BNSF property for alley right-of-way. Section 8(e) is requiring a chain link fence be constructed along the track side of the property. It was determined that this is not a good option for the city. These fences are an eyesore, they become junk collectors, make snow removal difficult, makes mowing difficult. Consensus of the council is to offer alternatives to BNSF such as signage, curb & gutter, a cable & rail system. The council authorized Lucken to work on further negotiations pertaining to this. Council also directed Larson to mark lines so the council can have a visual on where exactly this fence would be located.

Motion was made by Lambert seconded by Dufault to approve Partial Pay Request No. 15 from Gladen Construction in the amount of \$291,882.98. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Scott Christen was present to discuss the Berge/Stafford Park Pond. He informed the council that the Lions Club has been looking at a project and the appearance of the pond was discussed. There used to be a fountain in the pond that was a nice addition. As Larson explained, however, there were a lot of problems with the screens/pumps plugging up. Other options became a maintenance problem. The city has discussed deterring storm-water from 3rd street to go through the pond, but that is not complete. Also discussed was scooping out the sediment, smoothing out edges and rip/rapping the banks. After further discussion, the council directed Cariveau to put together a quick estimate of finishing the storm water pipe and edging and rip/rapping. The council will review the estimates, determine what can be done and how the Lions Club can participate in this project.

There being no further business to come before the council, motion was made by Veum seconded by Carlson to adjourn.

Charles Lucken, City Administrator