

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Bill Duncan, Jay Sjoblom, Morris Mattson, Rodney Holst, Kathy Gallups, and Merlyce Johnson. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Tom Bergeson, Public Works Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

Call to Order Mayor Robinson called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Robinson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.

Public Input There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending May 15, 2015
- B. Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2015, City Council Meeting
- C. Summer/Fall Event Street Closures
- D. Resolution 2128, Approving Rezoning of Former Hospital Site
- E. Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance 340, Amending Chapter 152 of the City of Cannon Falls Code by Rezoning Certain Property
- F. Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance 341, Authorizing Sale of City-Owned Real Property
- G. Purchase New John Deere Mower
- H. Fairgrounds Septic Holding Tank Replacement
- I. Resolution 2129, Accepting a Donation for the Fire Department
- J. Resolution 2130, Declaring Cost to be Assessed and Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

Police Take-Home Vehicle Amendment to Employment Terms Mayor Robinson provided background information regarding the issue of the Police Chief's take home vehicle as it was discussed at the previous council meeting. City Administrator Johnson was directed to check with the City Attorney to make a determination as to whether there were any legal issues with the Chief's use of a take home vehicle. City Attorney Roger Knutson indicated that there were no apparent legal issues. Council Member Duncan reiterated his

position in opposition to City employees being allowed to use City vehicles for personal use. Council Member Johnson inquired with regard to the required response time for Police Department employees. Police Chief McCormick indicated that the labor agreement specifies a 45-minute response time requirement and stated that his current residence was within the required response time.

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan that no City official may use a City vehicle for private use, including driving to and from work. Mayor Robinson commented that an exception might result from the need to take a City vehicle out of town on business and suggested establishing a separate policy for this situation. Council Member Duncan expressed agreement. Council Member Mattson inquired with regard to insurance considerations. Police Chief McCormick commented with regard to take-home vehicle policies that governed this practice under a previous employer, stating that he has followed those guidelines. Mayor Robinson recommended Council action with regard to the question of the Police Chief's use of a take-home vehicle, and then direct staff to develop personnel policy guidelines for review.

Council Member Duncan amended his motion to state that the Police Chief would no longer be allowed to drive a City vehicle to and from work. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gallups. All members present voted aye, the motion was declared passed.

Staff Reports

Public Works Director Bergeson issued a reminder with regard to lawn maintenance guidelines. He provided an update with regard to the swans.

Police Chief McCormick provided an update with regard to planning for the upcoming North Star Bicycle Festival. He discussed the First Thursday "Celebrity" Trike Race event on June 6.

City Administrator Johnson provided the following updates:

- Reported that he attended a recent Goodhue County Board of Commissioners meeting, during which a Joint Powers Agreement with the DNR was approved, which would allow an easement for the trail coming out of Lake Byllesby on City/County land. Also during this meeting Cannon Falls Library Director Justin Padgett presented information on behalf of the Goodhue County Library Directors with regard to library statistics and collaborations. Administrator Johnson will request that this report be forwarded to the Mayor and Council Members.

- Information was reviewed related to the Highway 20 railroad crossing being closed from approximately May 28 through June 1. North and south detour routes have been established.
- Former Fire Chief John Miller has invited the Mayor, Council Members, and City staff to a retirement gathering at the VFW on Saturday, June 27.
- Staff would begin working on the 2016 budget within the next couple weeks.
- An update was provided with regard to the new west side lighting.
- Interviews would be conducted for an administrative intern.
- A meeting was held with DNR officials for discussion of the trail from Cannon Falls out to Lake Byllesby. The plan was to complete the trail from the fairgrounds area out to the bridge this year to take advantage of grant funding, with the remainder of the trail being completed next year.
- An update was provided regarding driveway reconstruction work on the west side. Letters were sent to affected residents.
- Administrator Johnson mentioned that his 1-year anniversary of employment with the City occurred on March 10. Mayor Robinson discussed the performance evaluation process.

Mayor and Council
Reports

Council Member Duncan inquired with regard to the right turn issues discussed during the last Council meeting. Police Chief McCormick reported a significant reduction in illegal passing on the right, which was the primary cause of concern. Confusion with regard to the fact that right turns on red were still allowed was being addressed through additional communication.

Council Member Mattson inquired with regard to pool operations. Public Works Director Bergeson indicated that some patching of the parking lot would take place prior to the pool opening on June 10.

Mayor Robinson noted the State Legislature adjourned without passing a tax bill. As a result, unless legislation passed during the anticipated special session, there would be no changes to LGA payments for another year. He added that no significant transportation bill was passed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 2nd day of June, 2015.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator