

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 18, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Jay Sjoblom, Morris Mattson, Cathy Gallups, Lynne Berg, and Cedar Abadie. Council Member Merlyce Johnson was absent. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development 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 Berg, seconded by Council Member Abadie and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Public Input Cannon Valley Fair Board Members Nancy Hovel and Greg Kurtz discussed the value that the Cannon Valley Fair brings to the community. They expressed appreciation for financial support provided by the City and requested consideration for a possible increase.

Public Hearing:  
Resolution 2222,  
Vacating Easement in  
Block 2, Original Plat Community Development Director Maroney provided background information regarding a request for vacating an easement in Block 2, Original Plat and pointed out the property under discussion on a map. Director Maroney reported that an additional easement was discovered during the title review process. LeRoy McCusker was requesting that the City vacate this easement. Director Maroney reported that it appeared that there was no public need for the easement at this time.

Mayor Robinson opened the Public Hearing at 6:38 p.m. No one came forward to speak. Mayor Robinson closed the Public Hearing at 6:39 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Mattson, seconded by Council Member Gallups and unanimously carried, to approve Resolution 2222, vacating the easement in Block 2 of the Original Plat.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending October 13, 2016
- B. Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2016, City Council Meeting
- C. Resolution 2223, Hearing on Proposed Assessments for Nuisance Abatement
- D. Resolution 2224, Declaring Cost to be Assessed, Declaring Proposed Assessment, and Setting Public Hearing on Proposed

Assessment

- E. Set Budget Workshop Meeting
- F. Update on General Obligation Refunding Bonds
- G. Resolution 2225, Authorizing Preparation of TIF Plan (Banks Outdoors)
- H. ~~Resolution 2226, Authorizing Preparation of Encroachment Agreement (Tilion Brewing)~~ Pulled by Council Member Berg

A motion was made by Council Member Sjoblom, seconded by Council Member Berg and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Item H.

Council Business:  
LELS 2017 Wage  
Re-opener

City Administrator Johnson provided background information regarding a proposal that was received from the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) bargaining unit. He reported that labor union agreements with IUOE and LELS call for wage re-opening for 2017. LELS agreed to a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for their bargaining unit employees. If this agreement was approved by the City Council, non-union employee wages would still need to be addressed, along with the IUOE contract. Administrator Johnson reported that the Personnel Committee had reviewed the proposal and recommended approval of the 2% COLA for LELS. Council Member Gallups asked whether the contract had already been approved. Council Member Berg clarified that, if the City Council approves the 2% COLA, it would go into effect for LELS union employees, with no further negotiation. She added that agreeing to the 2% COLA would set the stage for this to also be extended to include IUOE and non-union City employees. She stated her opinion that the positive aspects of this outweigh the negative aspects and that the 2% COLA appeared to be in line with what was occurring in the corporate sector. Council Member Gallups expressed concerns about the 2% wage increase. Council Member Berg commented with regard the need to be competitive. Mayor Robinson commented that, if the 2% COLA was not approved, going into arbitration would involve additional expenses for the City and the resulting wage increase could be even higher. Council Member Berg indicated that other budget cuts may be required but described the increase as comparable to what the marketplace was offering and recommended approval of the proposal. Council Member Gallups commented with regard to the financial struggles of Cannon Falls residents, many of whom are seniors.

A motion was made by Council Member Berg, seconded by Council Member Abadie, to approve the Personnel Committee's recommendation to approve the 2% cost of living adjustment for

LELS. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2226,  
Authorizing  
Preparation of  
Encroachment  
Agreement (Tilion  
Brewing)

Council Member Berg indicated that she pulled the agenda item regarding a proposed encroachment agreement requested by Tilion Brewing to request additional information. She inquired with regard to the exact location of the placement of the cooling unit. She also asked whether there would be any type of screening around this, both for protection from vandalism and for aesthetic purposes. Director Maroney provided additional information, pointing out the location of the proposed cooling unit on a site plan. He stated that, if the Council agreed to proceed with an encroachment agreement, more specific information would be requested with regard to the exact location of the equipment. He added that screening of this equipment could be addressed by the encroachment agreement. He commented that Tilion Brewing may submit an encroachment agreement extension request or land purchase proposal in the future, in order to utilize a small triangular piece of City-owned property adjacent to the west wall of the building. Council Member Berg recommended the inclusion of a screening requirement in the encroachment agreement. Director Maroney clarified that Resolution 2226 would authorize the drafting of an encroachment agreement with Tilion Brewing by the City Attorney. The draft encroachment agreement would be forwarded for Council review.

Council Member Mattson inquired with regard to Veterans Lane. Mayor Robinson and Director Maroney commented regarding the plan for future discussion of closing this street to vehicular traffic.

A motion was made by Council Member Gallups, seconded by Council Member Berg and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2226, authorizing the City Attorney to prepare an encroachment agreement to allow placement of the equipment on City-owned land.

Staff Reports

Police Chief McCormick commented with regard to Halloween activities and provided a reminder to watch for pedestrians.

Mayor and Council  
Reports

Council Member Berg commented with regard to the addition of male and female swans in the park. She referenced the upcoming Public Works Commission meeting and recommended discussion of the sidewalk policy. She also recommended consideration of a potential crosswalk in the area of the Twin Rivers Senior Campus due to safety concerns. Chief McCormick reported with regard to past discussions with MnDOT related to these concerns. Chief McCormick commented with regard to potential temporary signage that could be used.

Council Member Sjoblom inquired with regard to the status of a potential chicken ordinance. Director Maroney reported that this topic will be discussed during the Planning Commission meeting on November 14. Chief McCormick added that this would require zoning amendments related to outbuilding exemptions.

Council Member Mattson inquired regarding a plan for striping at the intersection of Fourth Street and Highway 19. Chief McCormick indicated that he will check on this.

Council Members requested a status update with regard to the cable franchise agreements. Administrator Johnson provided a status update, reported that the consulting attorney from Kennedy & Graven, Bob Vose, was working with the cable providers. He indicated that a draft agreement may be available for Council review in November. Council Member Mattson provided additional information regarding the contract negotiation process.

Council Member Abadie asked who was responsible for trimming the lilac bushes near the Cannon Falls Area Historical Museum. It was clarified that these were on private property.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2016.

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Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator