

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Morris Mattson, Lynne Berg, Cedar Abadie, Mike Dalton, Ken Carpenter, and LeRoy McCusker. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Tom Bergeson, Public Works Director; Greg Anderson, City Engineer; Tim Malchow, Ambulance Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

- Call to Order Mayor Robinson called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Robinson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Oath of Office City Administrator Johnson administered the Oath of Office for newly elected City Council Members Mattson, Berg, Dalton, Carpenter, and McCusker. Mayor Robinson congratulated the new Council Members.
- Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter, seconded by Council Member Dalton and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.
- Public Input There was no one present who wished to speak during public input.
- Consent Agenda
- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending December 30, 2016
 - B. Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2016, City Council Meeting
 - ~~C. Approve New Liquor License for Mill Street Tavern Pulled by Council Member McCusker~~
 - D. Approve New Liquor License for Cannon River Winery
 - ~~E. Approve New Liquor License for Cannon River Catering Pulled by Council Member Berg~~
 - F. Resolution 2251, Accepting a Monetary Grant from SEMAC – Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council
 - ~~G. Resolution 2252, Designating the Depositories for City Funds for Fiscal Year 2017 Pulled by Council Member McCusker~~
 - H. Approve Pay Request No. 1 for the TH19 / First Street Utility Improvements Project
 - ~~I. Backup Ambulance Pay Stipend Pulled by Council Member McCusker~~
 - J. Purchase Stryker Power-LOAD and Stretcher for Ambulance
 - ~~K. 2017 Committee Appointments Pulled by Mayor Robinson~~
 - L. Resolution 2253, Accepting a Donation in Memory of Owen Hefner
- A motion was made by Council Member Mattson, seconded by Council Member Abadie and unanimously carried, to approve the

Consent Agenda, minus Items C, E, G, I, and K.

Election of Mayor
Pro Tem

Mayor Robinson provided background information regarding the election and duties of the Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Robinson opened the nominations for Mayor Pro Tem for 2017. A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Berg, to nominate Council Member Mattson to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for 2017. There were no other nominations. Mayor Robinson closed the nominations, all members present voted aye and the motion was declared passed.

Designation of
Official Newspaper
for 2017

Assistant City Administrator Endres provided background information, stating that staff recommends the selection of the *Cannon Falls Beacon* as the official newspaper for 2017. Council Member Dalton indicated that he would abstain from discussion or voting on this item, citing a conflict of interest.

A motion was made by Council Member Berg, seconded by Council Member Abadie, to designate the *Cannon Falls Beacon* as the official newspaper for 2017. All members present voted aye except Council Member Dalton abstained from the vote. The motion was declared passed.

Approve New
Liquor License for
Mill Street Tavern

Council Member McCusker commented with regard to past discussion of potential changes to City policy related to problems associated with liquor in terms of working with the establishments in lieu of imposing penalties. He discussed the importance of education and provided examples of ways that the City can help establishments to understand the regulations and their options. He referenced the mission and goals of the Chemical Health Initiative of Goodhue County.

A motion was made by Council Member McCusker, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve a new liquor license for Mill Street Tavern.

Approve New
Liquor License for
Cannon River
Catering

Council Member Berg requested clarification of the application for a liquor license by Cannon River Catering. Police Chief McCormick clarified that the liquor application is for Nick's Downtown Diner, with the applicant being Cannon River Catering. Council Member Berg inquired as to whether there was a limit on the number of liquor licenses that can be issued in the City limits. Chief McCormick stated his understanding that, according to the City Code, there were no limitations on the number of liquor licenses that could be issued. He added that a liquor license can only be issued in conjunction with a

restaurant.

A motion was made by Council Member Berg, seconded by Council Member Abadie and unanimously carried, to approve a new liquor license for Cannon River Catering.

Resolution 2252,
Designating the
Depositories for
City Funds for
Fiscal Year 2017

Council Member McCusker requested clarification of the inclusion of Morgan Stanley and RBC on the list of depositories. Assistant Administrator Endres commented that the City works with Morgan Stanley and RBC on long-term investments and with local banks on short-term investments. Council Member McCusker requested clarification of City staff having the authority to expand this list. Assistant Administrator Endres commented that this would allow for flexibility if an investment opportunity arose with an organization that was not listed. Council Member McCusker recommended that the City Council make these types of decisions. Mayor Robinson asked about the procedure that would need to be followed by the City Administrator or Finance Director in this situation. Assistant Administrator Endres referenced the investment policy that would need to be followed, with certain requirements set by State Statute. Council Member McCusker commented with regard to the discovery of previously unknown funds by former City Administrator Aaron Reeves. Assistant Administrator Endres provided additional information, stating that these were not investment funds, that she was aware of the existence of these funds, and that Administrator Reeves chose to utilize these funds in a different way than did previous City Administrators. Council Member McCusker recommended utilizing local banks as much as possible. Assistant Administrator Endres stated that this has been the City's practice.

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Carpenter, to adopt Resolution 2252, designating the depositories for City funds for fiscal year 2017. All members present voted aye, except Council Member McCusker voting nay. The motion was declared passed.

Backup Ambulance
Pay Stipend

Council Member McCusker commented that the pay stipend being recommended for the backup ambulance personnel may not be adequate, suggesting that this should be raised to \$25 rather than the proposed \$15. Council Member Dalton requested clarification of the pay stipend. Mayor Robinson commented with regard to Personnel Committee discussion of this issue, stating that the stipend would serve as an incentive for ambulance call backup. Council Member Dalton commented that the stipend could start at \$15 and, if not working, could be increased. Ambulance Director Malchow provided

additional information in this regard, stating that if this does not work there may be other options available.

A motion was made by Council Member McCusker to raise the backup ambulance pay stipend to \$25. The motion died for lack of a second. Director Malchow commented that the \$15 was budgeted for 2017 and that raising this to \$25 would create a budget deficit of approximately \$8,300, if the number of transfers remained the same as last year. Council Member Abadie commented with regard to discussions about whether this cost could be billed to the patient, stating that it was concluded that insurance companies and Medicare would unlikely reimburse the City for the increased expense. Council Member Berg commented that the \$15 was meant to help cover the cost of transportation, and Director Malchow expressed agreement with this comment.

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Carpenter, to approve a backup ambulance pay stipend of \$15. All members present voted aye, except Council Member McCusker voting nay. The motion was declared passed.

2017 Committee
Appointments

Mayor Robinson requested a change to the Chemical Health Initiative representative, appointing Council Member McCusker as the primary representative and Council Member Dalton as the secondary.

A motion was made by Council Member Abadie, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve the amended 2017 Committee appointments.

Chief McCormick commented that a chairperson was not designated for the Police Commission. Mayor Robinson indicated that the Police Commission can determine during their first meeting who will serve as the chairperson.

Staff Reports

Public Works Director Bergeson reported that the ice rink should be ready for use within the next couple of days.

Director Malchow reported that 2016 was another record year, with 1,185 ambulance calls, representing an approximate 10% increase from 2015. He expressed appreciation to Ambulance Service employees for their hard work. He added that transfers were up about 15% during 2016 compared to 2015. Mayor Robinson thanked the Ambulance Department for their service to the community.

Chief McCormick commented that 2016 ended quietly for the Police

Department. He stressed the importance of planning ahead to avoid impaired driving.

Administrator Johnson reported that a Cable Franchise Agreement with Hiawatha Broadband should be ready for Council review during the February 7, 2017, Council meeting.

Administrator Johnson reported that Econofoods was granted a 60-day extension to complete the requested traffic plan for the proposed pharmacy drive-through facility. He clarified that a building permit was approved but that the pharmacy drive-through cannot be used until the traffic plan is approved.

Mayor and Council
Reports

Council Member McCusker expressed appreciation to the citizens who voted for him. He encouraged citizens to contact him if they have any concerns. He thanked past Council Members for their service to the City. He expressed appreciation to former Library Director Justin Padgett. He thanked the family of Owen Hefner for their donation. He requested that he be made aware of upcoming Chemical Health Initiative and Police Commission meetings.

Council Member Mattson commented that there currently was not a taxi service in Cannon Falls. Mayor Robinson suggested contacting area taxi companies to see if they would be willing to serve Cannon Falls. Council Member Abadie commented that there may be Uber or Lyft drivers in the area. Council Members discussed the need for some type of taxi service in Cannon Falls. Chief McCormick commented with regard to discussions related to trying to fill this gap.

Mayor Robinson welcomed the new Council Members, commented about working together to keep Cannon Falls a great city, and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Adjournment

The meeting duly adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 17th day of January, 2017.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator