

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. 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; Tom Bergeson, Public Works Director; Todd Anderson, Fire Chief; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

Call to Order Mayor Robinson called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He expressed appreciation to the Public Works Department for the great job of cleaning the streets following the recent ice storm.

Roll Call All members were present.

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 Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Public Input There was no public input.

Consent Agenda

- ~~A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending December 30, 2016~~ Pulled by Council Member Carpenter
- B. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending January 13, 2017
- C. Meeting Minutes for January 3, 2017, City Council Meeting
- D. Approving New Liquor License for Rancho Loco Mexican Grill & Bar
- E. Election of 2017 Fire Department Officers
- ~~F. Purchase 2017 Utility Truck~~ Pulled by Council Member McCusker
- ~~G. Resolution 2254, Adopting the Goodhue County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan~~ Pulled by Council Member McCusker
- H. Resolution 2255, Accepting a Donation from Invenergy
- I. Approve 2% COLA for IUOE (49ers) for 2017

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter, seconded by Council Member Berg and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Items A, F, and G.

Discuss Re-Establishment of Park Board

Mayor Robinson discussed a recent meeting on re-establishing the Park Board. He stated that Council Member McCusker has agreed to chair the Park Board, if re-established. Mayor Robinson stated that he envisions a Park Board comprised of two Council Members, Public Works Director Bergeson or someone appointed by him, and two citizens.

Council Member McCusker provided background information with regard to the history of the Park Board. He discussed how the Park Board and the Trail Board worked together. He provided justification for the re-establishment of a Park Board. He discussed issues related to plans for trail connections within the City limits. He suggested that Park Board members include park and trail users. He provided examples of feedback related to potential trail connections.

Council Member Abadie asked if there was a list of all the parks and locations that would fall under the supervision of the Park Board, if it was re-established. Public Works Director Bergeson provided additional information in this regard. Council Member Abadie suggested defining the scope of the Park Board's responsibilities. Council Member McCusker suggested posting a complete list of parks on the City's website.

Council Member Dalton asked whether John Burch Park would be under the supervision of the Park Board, commenting that there is a wall in need of major repairs. Council Member McCusker provided rationale for Park Board oversight of John Burch Park. He commented with regard to issues related to wear and tear of the sod during the football and baseball seasons.

Council Member Dalton asked about the time frame for re-establishing and staffing the Park Board. He commented with regard to major issues with the swimming pool. Council Member McCusker expressed his hope that this could happen within the next 60 to 90 days. Council Member Berg commented that guidelines were previously established for the Park Board. City Administrator Johnson reported that he had located some Park Board Bylaws from 2002, which at that time was structured as a joint powers board with the School District. He expressed agreement with Council Member Abadie's comments with regard to determining the mission and scope of responsibility. He commented that the Public Works Commission has been supervising the parks in lieu of a Park Board.

Council Member Mattson expressed concerns related to residents allowing dogs to run off-leash in some of the parks. Council Member McCusker inquired with regard to the proposed dog park on the south end of the City. Administrator Johnson reported that the City had acquired the property under discussion for this but that the individual interested in developing a dog park has not been in contact with the City. Mayor Robinson commented that this could potentially fall under the purview of the Park Board.

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Carpenter, to re-establish the Park Board. Mayor Robinson recommended the drafting of a Mission Statement and Bylaws, as discussed. It was clarified that the Council would approve the Bylaws. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Purchase 2017 Utility  
Truck

Council Member McCusker inquired with regard to the need for the purchase of a 2017 utility truck and whether this was discussed with the Public Works Commission. Director Bergeson reported that this purchase would replace a pickup that was 17 years old and becoming a maintenance problem. He noted that the purchase was discussed with the Public Works Commission. Council Member McCusker inquired regarding the Public Works fleet. Director Bergeson commented that the utility trucks were fairly new but added that there were several 25- to 30-year-old vehicles in the fleet. He suggested rotating one of the utility trucks into the Public Works fleet every three or four years. When asked about the truck to be replaced, Director Bergeson indicated that ideally it would be good to dispose of this truck. Council Member McCusker asked about backup trucks. Director Bergeson commented that there was a flat-bed truck, which was not often used. When asked whether the purchase had been budgeted, Director Bergeson indicated that this vehicle purchase was included in the 2017 CIP budget, with half of the expense allocated to the water budget and half to the sewer budget. Council Member Mattson commented with regard to step-up issues with one of the trucks. Director Bergeson indicated that he will look into this concern.

Council Member McCusker suggested tabling a decision with regard to this purchase, even though it was included in the budget. He commented that there were other big things coming up and suggested holding off on major purchases for the time being.

A motion was made by Council Member Berg, seconded by Council Member Abadie, to approve the purchase of a 2017 utility truck from Ranger Chevrolet at a cost of \$26,061.16 through the State contract. A vote was taken, and the motion carried by a vote of 5:1, with Council Member McCusker voting nay.

Resolution 2254,  
Adopting the  
Goodhue County All-  
Hazard Mitigation  
Plan

Council Member McCusker requested an example of a hazardous mitigation situation. Police Chief McCormick discussed the intent of this plan to look at all of the potential disasters that could occur within Goodhue County, rank them in order of likelihood or probability, and try to determine which ones would be more important than others. He provided the example of getting the sewer bridge buried underneath

the river. He stated that having this project included in the Mitigation Plan may make it eligible for grant funding assistance from FEMA or other government agencies. He provided other examples of projects that have been included in the Mitigation Plan, such as safe rooms in schools and manufactured housing communities. He noted that the plan takes a broader look at potential disasters and ranks them in order of priority, in order to take advantage of grant opportunities. He commented that the goal of the Mitigation Plan will be to mitigate hazards before they occur. He clarified that this was a County-wide plan, which has been adopted by Goodhue County. As a community within Goodhue County, the City was being asked to adopt the plan as well.

Council Member McCusker inquired with regard to funding for the sewer bridge. Chief McCormick commented that the City was awarded a DNR grant to assist with the engineering study. Director Bergeson commented that the cost of the project has been estimated at approximately \$500,000.

Mayor Robinson commented that information will be forwarded to legislators with a request for this project to be included in a State bonding bill. Chief McCormick provided other examples of projects that have been included in the Mitigation Plan.

Council Member McCusker commented with regard to a water main on the Third Street Bridge. Chief McCormick clarified that the project would include burying the sewer line, adding a lift station, and also dealing with the water main. Council Member McCusker expressed concerns about potential liability issues related to a gas line in this location as well.

A motion was made by Council Member McCusker, seconded by Council Member Mattson and unanimously carried, to approve Resolution 2254, adopting the Goodhue County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Just and Correct  
Claims – Accounting  
Period Ending  
December 31, 2016

Council Member Carpenter inquired with regard to an expense related to cracked corn and oats. Director Bergeson reported that this expense pertained to food for the swans.

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter, seconded by Council Member Mattson and unanimously carried, to approve the just and correct claims for the accounting period ending December 31, 2016.

Staff Reports

Director Bergeson commented that the warmer weather may assist with street cleaning activities but that the ice rink may have to close. Mayor Robinson commented with regard to feedback he received with regard to the great condition of the streets in the Downtown area by 7:00 a.m. Director Bergeson commented that things have been going well.

Chief McCormick commented that residents have complied with winter parking restrictions, with very few tickets being issued. He cautioned residents to be careful at intersections, as road surfaces may be icy.

Administrator Johnson congratulated Todd Anderson for his re-election as Fire Chief.

Administrator Johnson provided an update regarding the search for a new Library Director, reporting that the Search Committee would meet the following week to review applications and select finalists to be interviewed.

Administrator Johnson provided an update with regard to an RFP process for the Third Street Bridge repair work.

Administrator Johnson indicated that advertising would be going out for the joint City-County Planning Department employee, with applications due around February 10.

Administrator Johnson reported that City Engineer Greg Anderson would be talking with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency with regard to a potential grant toward the sanitary sewer bridge project. The MPCA has suggested that the extension of sewer lines to three properties along River Road also be included with this project.

Mayor and Council  
Reports

Council Member Dalton commented that he was approached by an individual asking about the potential for a deer bow hunting season on public land within the City, which other communities have conducted. Mayor Robinson suggested consulting the DNR with regard to this. Council Member McCusker commented that the City does own land on the edges of the City that could be included in a hunt. Chief McCormick commented that this may involve enacting a new ordinance or modifying an existing ordinance.

Council Member Abadie suggested further discussion with regard to a potential dog park.

Council Member McCusker reported with regard to a recent Library Board meeting.

Council Member McCusker commented with regard to the scheduling of Public Works Commission meetings.

Council Member McCusker congratulated the new Fire Department officers.

Council Member McCusker suggested further discussion of the taxi situation.

Council Member McCusker encouraged citizens interested in serving on the Park Board to contact him or Administrator Johnson.

Mayor Robinson reported that he had been attempting to contact local cab companies. The Taxi Company of Red Wing has expressed an interest in covering Cannon Falls. Council Member McCusker commented that there may be ways to help support this effort.

Council Member Berg clarified that the Public Works Commission typically meets at 5:00 p.m. Council Member Berg commented that the Public Works Commission could potentially meet more often. Director Bergeson commented with regard to limiting the discussion to meeting agenda topics. Council Member Berg suggested formalizing the agenda process.

Council Member Carpenter commented and he and Council Member Dalton recently toured the City's stormwater and sewer treatment facilities. He suggested potentially hosting an Open House for the public.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2017.

---

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator