

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The LeRoy City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 8, 2014, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Acting Mayor Linda Sanders, Council Members Vickie Lidtke, Kathleen Gottschalk, Justin Brandau, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White. Mayor Jennifer Gumbel was absent. Others in attendance included Harold & Joann Shipman, Jan & Shirley Whisler, Jay Hardecopf, Roger & Pauline Fister, Ginger Holm, Craig Bucknell, Dave Sandusky, Jerry Barber, Sharon Thiel, and Ashley Huntley. Acting Mayor Sanders called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Brandau, second by Gottschalk to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

During Public Input time, Craig Bucknell, speaking on behalf of the LeRoy Lions and their flag program, requested putting American flags on the Welcome to LeRoy signs at no charge to the city. These flags would be displayed on five holidays each year. Council was receptive to this offer; Jones will check into the best location for the flag holders to make sure the flags won't be a problem with the sight lines along the street. Pauline Fister questioned what happened to the north entrance sign. Sanders reported the sign has been taken down; the EDA had received complaints about the size and placement of the sign. She noted the sign may be installed on the front of City Hall, or it may be installed on County 14 south of the bridge by the evergreen trees by the school.

During Standing Committee Reports, Lidtke reported the push-button door lock had been installed on the door at the Emergency Services building near the ambulance overhead door. The ambulance board had initially been told the cost of this would be approximately \$250; the actual bill was for \$782.23. The ambulance board is asking the council to share in the cost of this. Council will review this at their October meeting.

Deputy Lynch was not present to give the monthly police report.

Jay Hardecopf addressed council; he reported he is working on getting the upstairs walls and roof installed on his house at 314 East Main Street. He noted progress is being made, but his work schedule and the weather have hindered progress. Council thanked Mr. Hardecopf for the update and told him to keep working on this project.

Jones presented a quote from Schwickert's on repairs needed for the Emergency Services building roof. This quote was for \$2866 to repair the roof; previous estimates from other companies ranged in price from \$14,000 to \$38,000. Motion by Brandau, second by Lidtke to accept the repair proposal from Schwickert's. Motion carried 4-0. White updated council that LeRoy's projects listed on the Intended Use Plan with the Public Facilities Authority through the Minnesota Department of Health have been listed in the fundable range. White noted there should be more information about this following the 30-day public comment period.

White reported the City has received the deed for the property located at 102 East Main Street. A representative of Enviro-Tech Services of Austin has done the asbestos review for this property. The city should receive a report from Enviro-Tech sometime within the next couple of weeks.

Council reviewed the proposed 2015 budget and levy. White explained the preliminary levy must be adopted by September 30, 2014. The preliminary levy is set at \$500,000; this the same amount that has been levied for at least the past four years. White explained whatever amount is adopted for the preliminary levy cannot be increased, it can only be decreased. Brandau suggested putting additional funds into the preliminary levy. White reminded council that the amount put in the preliminary levy will be used by the county to spread to the parcel specific notices each property owner receives; any increase to the city's portion of the proposed taxes could cause many questions or concerns from constituents. Lidtke and Gottschalk felt the proposed amount for the preliminary levy was sufficient. Motion by Lidtke, second by Gottschalk to pass Resolution 2014-06, a resolution adopting the preliminary levy for 2015 in the amount of \$500,000. On a roll call of votes, Sanders, Lidtke, and Gottschalk voted aye. Brandau abstained. The motion carried.

Council reviewed the liability coverage waiver form for the city's liability coverage from the League of Minnesota Cities. Motion by Lidtke, second by Brandau to not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04. Motion carried 4-0.

Council reviewed one building/zoning permit.

1. W 25' Lot 5 exc N 50' & Lots 6 & 7 exc N 50', Block 3, Original Village-Build garage Motion by Gottschalk, second by Lidtke to approve said permit. Motion carried 4-0.

The Communications File was reviewed. Items included two letters from Mediacom, the charitable gambling reports from LeRoy Community Foundation, the minutes from the Mower Co. League of Cities meeting, and the invitation to the next Mower Co. League of Cities dinner meeting to be held in LeRoy. In the absence of Jim Gronwoldt of Travel Lanes, White requested for Mr. Gronwoldt the closing of South Broadway east of Travel Lanes on Saturday, September 20, 2014, for a customer appreciation dance; the dance will be held indoors in case of inclement weather. Motion by Lidtke, second by Gottschalk to allow the closing of South Broadway for this event. Motion carried 4-0.

Jones noted that some of the curbs in the downtown three blocks of Main Street have been crumbling away. Some of the handicap curbs are also deteriorating. Jones had contacted both BRB Construction and Redman Construction for estimates. Jones received one estimate; that was from BRB Construction in the amount of \$2934. Motion by Brandau, second by Sanders to approve the estimate from BRB Construction. Motion carried 4-0.

White updated council on rough estimates for the replacement of the furnace/air conditioner in the Community Center that heats and cools the lower dining room, senior citizen room, bathrooms, and front entry to install new duct work, and to replace the dropped ceiling in the affected rooms. The rough estimate for all this was \$13,500. Motion by Lidtke, second by Gottschalk to get bids for the above mentioned work. These bids will be reviewed at the October council meeting. Council may then apply to the LeRoy Community Foundation for funds for this project. Motion carried 4-0.

White presented a letter from League of Minnesota Cities about the Basic Code of Ordinances. The new Basic Code of Ordinances contains many changes from previous editions, which are now out of date and contain many illegal and/or unenforceable provisions. Council was reminded that failure to adopt the new edition of the Minnesota Basic Code may subject the City to civil liability; many provisions of the older editions are now unenforceable due to changes in statutes or court decisions. Motion by Sanders to purchase the new Minnesota Basic Code for \$400 and purchase the word-processing CD for \$35. Second by Lidtke. Motion carried 4-0.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Brandau, second by Lidtke at 7:21 PM.

Linda Sanders, Acting Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer