

Whalan City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2021
Meeting held via Zoom

Present: Marlys Tuftin, Tanya Cook, Kim Berekvam, Thore E. Johnson, and Owen Lewis

Absent: None

Visitors: Dave Ruberg, Ben Ruberg, Diane Snyder, Attorney Joe O’Koren, and Barb Jeffers

Elected Mayor and Council Members Oath of Office: Clerk Peterson administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Tuftin and Members Cook, Johnson, and Lewis. Peterson is registered with the Secretary of State to administer the oath remotely.

Regular Meeting:

Mayor Tuftin called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- A. **Agenda:** Member Cook motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of Zoning Board to New Business and Hall Rental, Rural Board Meeting, Sales Tax, and Lodging Tax to Miscellaneous. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- B. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - 1. Mayor Tuftin read the minutes of the Special Canvassing Board Meeting, November 13, 2020: Member Johnson motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
 - 2. Mayor Tuftin read the minutes of the Regular Meeting, December 14, 2020: Member Berekvam motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Member Cook seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
- C. **Treasurer’s Report:** Clerk Peterson provided the treasurer’s report: The CD has a value of \$27,067.46 General Fund \$49227.64, Ballfield Fund \$850.00, Beautification Fund \$187.00. Member Johnson motioned to approve the treasurer's report:

Date	Vendor	Description	Total
01/11/2021	MN PERA	4th Quarter 2020	\$210.00
01/11/2021	MiEnergy	Purchase power	\$3,117.25
01/11/2021	MN Department of Revenue	4th Qtr Withholding Taxes	\$20.78
01/11/2021	IRS	4th Qtr 2020 Withholding Taxes	\$337.36
01/11/2021	City of Lanesboro	Jan Rent	\$225.00
01/11/2021	Acentek	11776826	\$41.14
01/11/2021	USPS	Post Office Box	\$56.00
01/11/2021	Plunkett's Pest Control	6909428	\$40.00
01/11/2021	MiEnergy	Monthly Fee	\$172.00

01/11/2021	MN Department of Revenue	4th Qtr Sales Tax	\$969.00
01/11/2021	Randy Berekvam	December Payroll	\$244.73
01/11/2021	Michele Peterson	December Payroll	\$429.25

Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.

D. **Welcome to Visitors and Visitor Comments:** Attorney Joe O’Koren introduced himself, and thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve the community. No other comments were made.

E. **Continued Business:**

1. **Whalan Brochure:** Member Berekvam noted that a committee is being formed including herself, Jane Lewis, Donna Novotne, Member Cook, and Member Johnson. The group is looking to have a meeting soon and will nominate someone as the chairperson.

F. **New Business:**

1. **Council Member Pay:** Currency Council Member receives \$50 per regular meeting, while the Mayor receives \$75 per regular meeting, no additional pay for special meetings. Member Lewis motioned to keep the pay for Council Members and Mayor the same for 2021. Member Cook seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
2. **Resolution 2021-01 Designating Official Depository:** Member Lewis motioned to approve the resolution. Member Berekvam seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
3. **Resolution 2021-02 Designating Official Newspaper:** Member Cook motioned to approve the resolution. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
4. **Resolution 2021-03 Establishing Mileage Reimbursement Rate:** Member Lewis motioned to approve the resolution. Member Berekvam seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
5. **Resolution 2021-04 Authorizing Signature Authority for City Accounts:** Member Cook motioned to approve the resolution. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Zoning Board:** Member Johnson motioned to appoint Diane Snyder and Ernie Johnson to the Zoning Board both for three year terms and Member Berekvam for a one year term. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.

G. **Miscellaneous:**

1. **Rural Board Meeting:** Clerk Peterson shared that the annual rural board meeting will be held Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. An announcement will be made the week prior if the meeting will be held via zoom or in person.
2. **Hall Rental Documentation:** It was noted that there is not currently a rental form on hand. Clerk Peterson will provide a sample at the February meeting. Additional information will be discussed with regards to deposit and rental fees.
3. **Town Hall Internet:** Clerk Peterson will call and check on pricing for internet access at the Town Hall.
4. **City Sales Tax:** Clerk Peterson will provide the exact language as to what can be funded by a City Sales Tax at the February meeting. Members will submit project suggestions as well.
5. **Lodging Tax:** Member Berekvam noted that the current agreement runs through February 2022, and requires written notice of 120 days to renegotiate. Members noted that two years ago businesses from the City of Whalan contributed \$37,000 in Lodging Tax fees, and received \$1,000

in funding for beautification. Members will share suggestions on how to move forward at the February meeting.

6. **Council Member Appointment to Zoning:** Visitor Benjamin Ruberg noted that Member Berekvam could only be appointed to a one year term, rather than the two year term noted earlier. Member Cook motioned to appoint Member Berekvam to the Zoning Board for the 2021 year. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Vote was done by roll-call with all in favor. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Member Johnson moved to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Motion seconded by Member Lewis. Vote was done by roll call with all in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Clerk/Treasurer