

The regular meeting of the Greenbush City Council was held on September 21, 2020, at 5:30 pm. This meeting was conducted in person and via electronic methods due to the Governor's Emergency Declaration concerning the COVID Pandemic.

Council Present in Person: Brenda Sather, Eric Etherington, Shawn Walsh

Council Present via Electronic Methods: Dennis Filer, Christine Foss

Others Present in Person: Steve Emery, Dustin Fanfulik, Shaun Jevne, and Anita Locken

Other Present via Electronic Methods: John Wynne, Ryan Bergeron

MN Warn Application

MN Warn is a mutual aid agreement between cities in MN to share public works employees or equipment with other cities should a city experience an emergency situation. An example would be should both city employees test positive for COVID another city with MN Warn could provide an employee to cover water and sewer duties. Council would need to pass a resolution to approve this application. Public Works Director Jevne has listed the city equipment we have available as the city pickups and a trash pump. Cities in our area that participate are: Badger, Lake Bronson, Lancaster, Hallock, Kennedy, Donaldson, Stephen, Argyle, Warren, Alvarado and Oslo. If our city equipment is damaged while loaned to another city we are responsible for replacing our own equipment.

M/S/P Shawn Walsh/Dennis Filer to approve Resolution 2020-14 to be a party to Minnesota Water Agency Response Network (MN Warn).

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Lawn Mower

Public Works Director Jevne researched the cost of replacing one of the lawn mowers. He received a quote on a new Altoz mower with 2 decks for \$15,393.00. At this time the city has \$31,000.00 in reserves for equipment. Further in this agenda is a request for a different snow plow in the amount of \$25,000.00. The public works department budget is tight. If the city were to get a lease for this mower the 2021 budget would be affected. The snow plow is needed this year. Council decided to wait on purchasing a new mower.

Pool House Change Order

Contractor Brian Lewis provided council with a change order on the pool house renovations. The amount of the change order is \$2,694.00. This amount is for surface mount shower heads. These heads will make repairs easier.

M/S/P Dennis Filer/Shawn Walsh to approve the change order for surface mount showers in the amount of \$2,694.00. These funds will come from the donation fund.

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Main St Water Project

Council discussed the feedback they received at the public hearing on this project. The main concerns on the project were the bump-outs and the sidewalks. The diagonal parking can stay in the project even if the bump-outs are removed. The diagonal parking was put in the project to help alleviate parking issues for businesses when events are held. Grant writer John Wynne's opinion is that any changes to the project could jeopardize the grant funds. The city does not want to jeopardize the \$1.1 million grant. The grant is for Main St streetscape, business rehabilitations, housing rehabilitations and rental rehabilitation. John Wynne is going to check with DEED to see if they will allow for the bump-outs to be removed from the project. The city engineers will get John a cost reduction amount for removing the bump-outs. A special meeting can be held to discuss this after John has received an opinion from DEED.

COVID-19

CARES Funds- council was provided with the CARES funding report that gets sent to MN Management and Budget. As of the end of August the remaining balance of the CARES funds is \$15,667.13. Council was presented with 2 quotes for audio-visual equipment for council meetings. This equipment would help so people attending council meetings remotely can hear the council and participants that are attending in person. The current set up also provides a large amount of feedback at times. The equipment will be mobile and will be able to be used when council meeting can be held in the conference room again. The quotes were Tricorne Audio for \$14,895.00 and AVI Systems Inc for \$14,799. The AVI quote does have a 1 year support cost of \$1,500.00 that can be taken out. The fire department also has a list of SCBA and other equipment totalling \$10,650.00 that can be covered by COVID funds. Mayor Sather stated that she would rather use the regular city budget funds to cover the fire department needs.

M/S/P Dennis Filer/Eric Etherington to approve the purchase of audio-visual equipment from AVI Systems Inc minus the annual support fee.

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Legion Park Bathhouse Flooring

The council was provided with a LifeFlooring flooring quote for the Legion Park Bathhouse in the amount of \$11,261.17. Clerk-Treasurer Locken is also looking into a quote for an epoxy flooring finish. The bathhouse also needs further updates. Clerk-Treasurer Locken and Public Works Director Jevne are going to work on a list of updates that are need along with the flooring. That way the whole facility can be updated and not just for the flooring.

City/County Shop

Mayor Sather is still working on getting the updated agreement to the attorney.

Compost Site Cameras

The cameras have been installed and are operational. One individual has dumped a metal table in the compost site. Council would like for this individual to be contacted to let them know that they may not dump these items at our compost site due to them not being residents of the city and that dumping furniture at the compost site is not acceptable. Signs stating this area is under surveillance and the you need to be a resident that lives within city limits to dump at the compost site are to be installed.

FY 2021 Proposed Budgets

Council was provided preliminary proposed budgets to review. The General Fund levy shows a proposed increase of 3%. 2017-2019 each year, a 3% increase was implemented. Council was warned that the budget needs to be watched very carefully. If expenses are not reduced the city will have to pass a levy that will need to be larger than 3%.

M/S/P Eric Etherington/Dennis Filer to approve Resolution 2020-16 Approving Proposed 2020 Tax Levy, Collectible in 2021. General Fund levy at \$314,150.00.

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Blight/Nuisance Ordinance

Tabled

Storm Damage

The final storm damage numbers are to be turned into League of MN Cities Insurance Trust so the city can be paid for the clean-up and repair expenses. The community center roof has lost more singles recently. Public Works Director Jevne has also found a soft spot in the roof above the kitchen. The roof should be replaced. Quotes for roofing are to be brought to the next meeting.

Grader

Dave Wahl put in a bid for the motor grader in the amount of \$1,100.00. Scrap price is about a 1/3 of the bid.

M/S/P Eric Etherington/Dennis Filer to accept the Greenbush Race Park bid in the amount of \$1,100.00

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Snow Plow Truck

Public Works Director Jevne inspected the MN DOT snow plow that is available for the city to purchase. The snow plow is a 2004/2005 Sterling automatic tandem. The maintenance records show no major issues. It comes with a brine tank, blade, and wings. It has a new sander and fuel tanks. The price for the truck is \$25,000.00. We can't take possession of it until January 2021.

M/S/P Shawn Walsh/Dennis Filer to approve the purchase of the Sterling Plow Truck from MN Department of Transportation for \$25,000.00.

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Public Works Update

The public works crew will be flushing hydrants on Thursday. The tower mixer is being installed Friday. The electrician will be hooking up the power on Monday. Valve exercising will be completed this month. MN Rural Water has a water apprenticeship that Public Works Technician Rud could sign up for. MN Rural Water would pay 80% of his wages to be part of this program. Public Works Director Jevne needs to check to see if this program would have any benefit to the city. Mr. Rud would not receive his water certification through this program. More information is to be brought to council. Key Contracting will be in the city repairing manholes. Repairs are to be made each year. 60% of the manholes have been repaired. Public Works Director Jevne needs to review the Inflow and Infiltration plan for the sewer. Sewer inspections will be occurring on Monday. Winterizing of the pool will occur in the next couple of weeks. The Wiktel fiber optics project is almost complete. Ruth Anderson's curb stop has been replaced. MN Rural Water has a water and sewer insurance plan for residents. It costs around \$1.50 per month. More information is to be gathered and brought to the October meeting.

City Office

Residents are wondering when the city office will be open again. The Governor's Executive order still stand that if you can be teleworking you are to telework. Grygla, Middle River and Badger are still closed. Roseau is open with limited hours. There are individuals in Clerk-Treasurer Locken's household that are high risk for COVID. Council gave Mayor Sather permission to work with the clerk-treasurer and work towards opening the office.

Fire Explorers

The Fire Explorers program has started again for the year. It is being run under COVID guidelines. There are 18 individuals enrolled.

Consent Agenda

M/S/P Shawn Walsh/Dennis Filer to approve the consent agenda items with revised bills and minutes (Minutes/Bills-Revised/Receipts).

Roll Call responses in favor: Shawn Walsh, Eric Etherington, Dennis Filer, Christine Foss, Brenda Sather

Upcoming Meetings:

- Regular Council Meetings: at 5:30 pm, Oct 19th, Nov 16th, and Dec 21st
- Truth-In-Taxation Hearing: at 6:00 pm on December 21st

This meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Brenda Sather

Mayor

Anita Locken

Clerk-Treasurer