

# GOOD THUNDER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting

December 7, 2015

The December 7, 2015 meeting of the Good Thunder city council was called to order, at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Robert Anderson. The meeting convened in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Court, Good Thunder, Minnesota. Council members present, Kim Hernandez; Sarah Karels, Jim Prom, Ken Giese. Others in attendance: Hunter Chaffee, City Maintenance; Phil Klammer, Fire Chief; Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council member, Jim Prom, made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and distributed. Council member Ken Giese seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member, Kim Hernandez, made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015, city council meeting minutes as presented and distributed. Council member, Ken Giese, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, presented 2016 proposed budget information for the Truth in Taxation hearing. The following information was presented:

- The original 2016 proposed budget Ms. Barnard presented to the council at the budget workshop in August had shown a 5.7% increase from the 2015 adopted budget. The current proposed 2016 budget reflects a 3% budget increase or an increase of \$8,803 from the 2015 adopted budget.
- The 2016 proposed budget reflects an increase in the Tri-City Police budget of 2.5% as approved by the police commission.
- The 2016 proposed budget reflects a 3% increase in personnel salaries and was approved at the August 24<sup>th</sup> budget workshop meeting. It was also pointed out that the previous maintenance person worked 35 hours per week and that the current maintenance person works 40 hours per week which is reflected in the presented budget.
- The council, and citizens present, were informed that the debt service for the Fire Station building has been paid in full by the Good Thunder Fire Department Relief Association Fund. Ms. Barnard stated that in questioning, the financial institution, for interest rates being billed for this payment, she had been able to decrease this payment, for the fire department, by an estimated \$2000 in savings.
- Under Future Improvements-Street Department/ Street Improvements, the city was able to increase this line item from \$29,921 to \$38,769 by allocating the following: \$2048 was moved from fire hydrants to this line item; \$2,800 was moved from reflective signs to this line item; \$4,000 was moved from Fire Department from personal protective gear to this line item.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard then presented resolutions for council consideration to approve the 2016 budget.

Council member, Jim Prom, made a motion approving **Resolution No. 2015-09 Resolution Certifying 2016 Final Tax Levy** and **Resolution No. 2015-08 Resolution Certifying 2016 Final Special Levy**. Council member, Ken Giese seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. This therefore sets the tax levy at \$293,487, the special levy at \$8,760. This makes the total budget levy to be set in the amount of \$302,247.

Council members thanked Ms. Barnard on the preparation of the 2016 budget and the interest savings found regarding the debt service payment.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, presented Resolution No. 2015-10. A resolution authorizing signing authority allowing access to Minnesota government access accounts for electronic court records and documents. Patrick McDermott, Blue Earth County Attorney, provides prosecution services for all cities in Blue Earth County, except Lake Crystal. The Minnesota Judicial branch is moving towards a paperless and new access system. In order for this to proceed, the state is asking for separate agreements for each municipality that receives prosecution services. Ms. Barnard explained that this information was received today and that she had emailed Tri-City Police Chief to see if the city needs to approve such a resolution or if the Tri-City Police Department would need to approve such a resolution. Council member, Sarah Karels, contacted Police Jordan by phone, during the meeting, and was informed that he has contacted Mr. McDermott for clarification. This resolution was tabled at this time.

Hunter Chaffee, City Maintenance, informed the council that the street sweeper works “wonderful”. The council was informed that the Pepsi delivery truck had backed into the roof at city hall and damage did occur to the roof overhang. Estimates are being obtained and this repair will be the responsibility of Pepsi. Boening Brothers have replaced the curb stop risers at Dick’s Locker, and 100 S, Halladay Street. The property at 406 S. Halladay needs the curb stop, riser and box replaced (to be paid for by the city) and the lead water line to the house needs to be replaced and is the responsibility of the property owner.

Jeff Domras, City Engineer, and Engineer for Blue Earth County on the CSAH 1 (old Hwy #66) project, feels that the city should consider replacing the two (2) street lights and poles on CSAH 1 (old Hwy #66) during the 2016 road construction. After speaking with Xcel, the poles are their responsibility and the lights will be replaced within five years with LED lights.

Jetter Clean televised, the sanitary sewer line, underneath CSAH 1 (old Hwy. #66) to see the condition of this line. This information will be forwarded to Jeff Domras, City Engineer for review. Hunter Chaffee stated that in speaking with Mr. Domras the cost of replacing this line is roughly estimated at \$60,000. Mayor Anderson suggested that during the 2016 road construction of CSAH 1 (old Hwy. #66) the council place a storm intake pipe in to detour water from the Lynn Sternitzke property.

Fire Chief, Phil Klammer, informed the council that the Fire Department responded to four (4) medical calls during the month of November 2016. Santa Claus will be coming to the fire station on Saturday, December 12, from 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. The Fire Department has received the thermal imaging camera and the air packs as ordered. Fire Chief Klammer reported that during 2015 there

were twelve (12) regular meetings, thirty-seven (37) drills and ninety-five (95) calls. The council thanked the Good Thunder Fire Department Relief Association for their monetary contribution for the fire station building.

Council member, Sarah Karels, made a motion to approve the bills as presented and distributed. Council member, Kim Hernandez, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

A citizen was present to discuss a medical condition of a plant that is on the property where she resides. Another citizen asked about the Animal Ordinance that the council is considering. Ms. Barnard asked the council to review the ordinance and get their recommendations to her before the next meeting.

Council member, Ken Giese, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Council member, Sarah Karels, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl A. Barnard  
City Clerk-Treasurer