

Wahpeton City Council
January 2, 2018
5:00 p.m.

Present: Schmidt (via teleconference), Lambrecht, Bajumpaa, Dale, Bohn, Miller, and Wateland

Absent: Bertsch and McCann

Also Present: Huwe, Lies, Miranowski, Thorsteinson, Broadland, DeVries, Bakken, Amos and Cain

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Dale.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/CITIZEN CONCERNS/ETC.

Introduction of Wahpeton Police Officer Tyler Mauch ó Police Chief Thorsteinson was excited and pleased to introduce Tyler Mauch as the newest police officer. Thorsteinson felt fortunate to have Mauch as a part of the Police Department. Attorney Lies swore in Mauch, and Mauch read an Oath of Office as a new City of Wahpeton Police Officer. Mauch was welcomed by a round of applause.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (presented by the Mayor) ó

Approval of minutes of regular meeting held December 18, 2017

Games of Chance Licenses, Site Authorizations & Special Permits:

Other Games of Chance and/or special permits:

Site Authorization ó Red River Human Services at City Brew Hall

Other Games of Chance and/or special permits:

Zonta Club of Breckenridge/Wahpeton ó Games of Chance Raffle Permit

Some Place Safe ó Games of Chance Raffle Permit

Presentation/Approval of Reports

Southern Valley Economic Development Authority Minutes and Attachments of Meeting held December 21st, 2017

Mayor Dale asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent agenda and there were none. **Motion by Lambrecht, seconded by Bajumpaa, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND STAFF

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Fiscal Year End Transfers – request referral to Finance Cmt. ó Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Finance, Economic Development & Personnel Committee.

2017 Budget Amendments – request referral to Finance Cmt. ó Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Finance, Economic Development & Personnel Committee.

2017 Audit – January 22nd & 23rd

City Hall Closed January 15th in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

City/Park Board Election Information ó Huwe said election information is available on the City's website, and running for office packets can be obtained at City Hall. She said yesterday was the

first day to circulate petitions to gain signatures for office and today is the first day they could be submitted.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Economic Development Commission Recommendations ó DeVries said two recommendations were made at the recent Economic Development Commission meeting. The first was a funding request from the Golf Course, with Jay Ovsak, President of the Board of Directors, and Travis Peterson, Superintendent of the golf course grounds, present at the meeting to make the funding request. Ovsak was also present at tonight's meeting. Last year the EDC allocated funds of \$26,748.33 for the Bois de Sioux Golf Course in December 2016 for operating expenses but those funds were never drawn. The Golf Board is requesting this year that those funds be reallocated. They are very close and had a good year. Peterson was able to trim some from the budget and the Grille Room had a good year. There is no exact number from their accountant yet for breaking even for operating costs but are close. They are requesting the \$26,748.33 be reallocated to this year to cover any remaining operating expenses and whatever is leftover will be used to purchase much needed equipment. The EDC recommends the City Council approve reallocating the remaining funds towards operating costs and equipment purchases. **Motion by Miller, seconded by Bajumpaa, to approve reallocating the remaining operating funds of \$26,748.33 from Sales Tax for Economic Development to the Bois de Sioux Golf Course, which after covering year end operating expenses for 2017 will be used toward equipment purchases.** Discussion held. **Motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-0.**

DeVries said the next recommendation was regarding committee consolidation. He said there was some consolidation with the CEO but in addition to that, at the Council Retreat there was talk about consolidating the EDC. The CDC is still strong with the City and we also now have the Southern Valley Economic Development Authority so there was discussion to consolidate the EDC into the Finance Committee as Economic Development is covered by the Finance Committee. At the EDC meeting, those members present had a consensus that it was a good thing to do. The EDC made a recommendation that the City Council dissolve the Economic Development Commission, which is done by an Ordinance amendment to allow it to sunset. Discussion held regarding the EDC and the decision to dissolve it.

Council member Wateland offered the first reading of the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 987
AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO REPEAL
THAT PART OF THE SALES TAX ORDINANCE
THAT CREATES THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
AND SETS FORTH ITS DUTIES

DeVries reported in the recent issue of City Scan from the League of Cities the City of Wahpeton was profiled. He said he tried to include as many of the amenities and positive things that he could in one page, including a couple of pictures. He felt it was a good promotion for the City. He said he would like to try to be included in this publication as often as possible as he felt it was a good way throughout the state to get the story of Wahpeton told.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Library Report ó Bakken reported the Sock Tree at the Leach Library collected 312 pairs of socks that will be delivered to Three Rivers Crisis Center tomorrow. She said they were overwhelmed with the response they had from the public and were very pleased with the out-pouring of support. Because of its success, the Library Board members would like to see it happen again next year and possibly make it an annual event. Bakken announced on Thursday, January 4th at 5:30 p.m. the

library will be holding an E-reader class. A Mid-winter Reads Program will begin January 22nd and run through March 2nd and anyone reading six or more books during that time will be registered for a prize. For those feeling golf deprived, the library will be hosting a mini golf session in the library on January 22nd at 1:30 p.m. The library will continue with their other scheduled events, and that schedule can be accessed on the library's website. Bakken said the library will be closed on January 15th in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

PW Report

Miranowski requested referral to Public Works Committee **of an Agreement with the NDDOT and Richland County for the Railroad Crossing Upgrades at 16th Avenue West**. Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Miranowski requested referral to Public Works Committee **to discuss the Governor's Downtown Initiative Program Grant Application and what the City of Wahpeton should apply for in the Downtown Area**. Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Miranowski requested referral to Finance Committee **to discuss Replacing the Light Bulbs on the Metal Christmas Tree in Volunteer Park**. Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Finance, Economic Development & Personnel Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL

Mayor's Ad-hoc Sesquicentennial Committee ó Dale announced the Mayor's Ad-Hoc Sesquicentennial Committee will consist of Jane Priebe ó Chair, himself, Ken Komplein, Kim Nelson, Lane Wateland, Kim Pauly, Wayne Gripentrog, Nancy Fromke, and Ex-Officio members Brittney Hatting and Chris DeVries. He felt this would be the steering committee and sub-committees will be needed in the future for different events and more involvement will be required from more people.

REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES & BOARDS

Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee Report (No Meeting 12/27/17)

Public Works Public Safety Committee Report (No Meeting 12/26/17)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lies requested the EDC Ordinance and Policies be referred to the Finance Committee. Mayor Dale will refer this item to the Finance, Economic Development & Personnel Committee.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following Committee Meetings were then scheduled:

- a. Finance Committee January 8th, 12:00 Noon
- b. Public Works Committee January 9th, 12:00 Noon

Adjournment

Motion by Wateland, seconded by Lambrecht, to adjourn at 5:21 p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor Steve Dale

Lynelle Amos, Finance Assistant