

Summary Minutes Public Hearing and Regular Meeting - February 11, 2019

The City Council of the City of Rushmore met in regular session on February 11, 2019 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Call to Order: Mayor Scott Bieseemeier called the public hearing to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call indicated the following members present: Scott Bieseemeier, Bruce Boltjes, Nikki Reiter and Mark Schutte. Ben DeVries arrived at the meeting at 8:15. City Staff Members Present: City Clerk Coleen Gruis, Maintenance - Jason Harberts and Larry Lupkes. Guests: Ali Joens, Brent Petersen, Jason Hieronimus. Mike Schei, Corky Reese, Marj Reese.

The public hearing was opened and Mayor Bieseemeier turned the public hearing over to Ali Joens from Southwest MN Housing Partnership. Ali addressed the group to let them know that the City of Rushmore Small Cities Development Grant Program pre-application was selected to submit a final application with some changes. Suggested changes were that we make the application for single family owner homes, that the grant request per project be increased to \$25,000.00, and that we have more qualified surveys expressing interest in the participating in the grant program. Ali explained that there are other pools of funding that residents may qualify for. She also spoke about the \$15,000.00 the City of Rushmore has dedicated to the grant, to be used to assist with the lead assessment part of the project. This is an upfront cost that is hard for homeowners to come up with. The grant will be written for 10 owner occupied homes. Ali went over the Summary of Activities regarding the grant process. We will find out in June of 2019 if the City qualifies for the Rehab Housing Grant. Those who submitted surveys will be notified of the grant. Projects can start in the fall of 2019 and will go until December 2021. Ali continued to explain the uses of the grant money and that certain items are required to be fixed. These are usually found during the inspection period. This program is 70% grant and 30% owner funds. There were no questions from the public.

Ali Joens spoke to Council regarding the conflict of interest disclosure form. It was explained that any city employees or council members intending to apply for the grant should be noted in the application. Mayor Bieseemeier signed the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form stating that the city may have an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest.

A motion was made to pass the Resolution In Support Of A Small Cities Development Program Project. Seconded, motion carried.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. and Mayor Bieseemeier called the regular council meeting to order.

Nobles County Deputy Mike Shei had no items of interest for the Council, but did want to let the fire department members know that if they have any open house type projects, the County has Project Life Saver that they would like to promote to the community.

Jason Hieronimus and Brent Petersen spoke to Council about possible changes in fire department pay and ways to encourage new members to join the fire department. Items discussed were: Increasing the amount paid per fire and rescue calls to \$10.00; giving a "bonus" for completing Firefighter I and II classes. Council was open to an increase in pay and an incentive to complete training classes. Brent and Jason will do more research with the fire department members and get back to Council. They also let Council know that the newest fire department pumper truck will be going to Renner, SD for repair and a new LED light upgrade.

Maintenance Report:

1. The new skid loader went in for repair. The repair was covered under the warranty and the skid loader is back in use for the City.
2. They ordered a new valve that will need to be replaced at the pump house.
3. They are continuing to clean detention tanks each month.
4. City wide Spring Clean-Up has been scheduled for April 30th.

Corky Reese spoke with Council regarding snow removal on his corner of Johnsen Road. Corky stated that he is happy with the way Larry moved the snow at his corner the last few snows. Larry reported that he changed the angle of his grader blade and it is working well.

City staff prepared a 1st draft of a written snow removal policy. Consensus of Council was to look over the policy and review it at the next Council meeting.

A motion was made to approve the regular meeting minutes of the January 14, 2019 City Council meeting as presented at the meeting. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Council was given an updated list of accounts payable. A motion was made to pass the following resolution: Mayor Biesemeier and Clerk Gruis are instructed to make payment of all regular accounts payable. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the January 2019 Pledged Securities with First State Bank Southwest. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried. A motion was made to place the required 2018 WIF funds, \$23,995.00 based on wastewater flows, into a 13 month CD with FSBSW. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to pass the Resolution Expressing Acceptance Of and Appreciation For the Gift to the City of Rushmore from the Rushmore Car Show Committee. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried. Councilmember Boltjes shared that he thought an awning for the west entrance of the school would be an appropriate use for the donation.

A motion was made to pass the Resolution Consenting to a Transfer of Control of Franchise from Clarity Telecom, LLC. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Council was briefed on the Schaap Sanitation 2.2% increase notification for garbage and recycling pickup of Rushmore residential properties. After discussion, a motion was made to pass a resolution which will increase Rushmore garbage and recycling rates by 2.2%, rounded up to the next nickel. Increase will take effect after publication in the City of Rushmore Newsletter. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Staff spoke to Council about reviewing the water, sewer, and electric utility rates, as there has not been a rate increase to these utilities for a few years. Consensus of Council was to review this in the near future.

Discussion was held regarding filling the part time cleaning position. Shirley Vis is no longer cleaning for the City. Consensus of Council was to advertise for a part time, less than 20 hours per month, cleaning position in the City Newsletter.

Councilmember Reiter gave a report on the LMC conference she attended in Mankato for newly elected officials.