

Summary Minutes - Regular Meeting – January 13, 2020

The City Council of the City of Rushmore met in regular session on January 13, 2020 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Call to Order: Mayor Scott Bieseemeier called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll call indicated the following members present: Scott Bieseemeier, Ben DeVries, Mark Schutte and Nikki Reiter. Bruce Boltjes was absent. City Staff Members Present: City Clerk Coleen Gruis, Maintenance - Jason Harberts and Larry Lupkes. Guests: Travis Winter, Chelsea Alger, Ryan Kruger, Eric Meester, Larry Van Hout, Gail Levenson.

The first item on the agenda was to hear the request for qualifications from three engineering firms to replace the water tower and water quality improvement. Travis Winter and Chelsea Alger represented Bolton & Menk from Fairmont. Travis explained that they have done many water tower and water improvement projects. Chelsea is a funding specialist for Bolton & Menk. The estimated cost to prepare a PER and ER's for USDA funding is \$20,000.00. At 7:30 Eric Meester from Nero Engineering from Minneapolis spoke to Council about his engineering firm. Nero is a smaller engineering firm that works primarily with water and wastewater projects. Eric is currently working with the City of Avoca on a water project to connect with a rural water system. His estimate to prepare a PER for USDA funding was \$17,000.00. The last firm to present was Larry Van Hout of Widseth Smith Nolting from Alexandria. Larry also introduced their funding specialist Gail Levenson. WSN likes to work with smaller communities and has several offices throughout Minnesota. The cost to complete the PER for USDA funding is \$35,000.00. No decisions were made at this meeting.

A motion was made to approve the regular meeting minutes of the December 9, 2019 City Council meetings 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 Bieseemeier 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 December 2019 Pledged Securities with First State Bank Southwest. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the land use request for a 18' X 14' move in used shed at 119 S. Thompson Ave. The shed has a tin roof and they have plans to repaint the shed that will be placed on skids and will go in the back yard. A motion was made to issue the land use permit. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Maintenance Report

Discussion was held about the school roof. Several new leaks have developed inside the school. Jason showed pictures of ice jams forming from the deterioration of the gutter system. The ice jams are causing the outside brick to break up in places. Jason contacted several contractors about doing the roof. Interested contractors were asked to submit bids for the February meeting. Council approved Jason's request to attend the MN Rural Water Association Conference in St Cloud March 3rd – 5th to receive his water and wastewater training to continue his licenses.

A motion was made to complete the payroll for the 2019 fire department calls, meetings and training as presented. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried. Discussion was held about establishing a fire escrow account. This would allow the City to request that funds from an insurance settlement be deposited into the escrow account to pay for debris cleanup following a fire or explosion. A motion was made to pass the City of Rushmore Resolution 1-2020 Establishing A Fire Escrow Account. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to pass the Resolution Accepting A Donation For The Rushmore Fire Department for a donation from Larry Long. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Council was presented with the following recommendations from the fire department for 2020 fire department officers:

Fire Chief.....Brent Petersen
Assistant Chief.....Kenny Feeken
Secretary.....Jason Hieronimus
Treasurer.....Kevin Adolph

A motion was made to accept the recommendations for 2020 fire department officers. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the areas that each council member heads. A motion was made that Council appointment for 2020 be as follows:

Acting Mayor.....Bruce Boltjes
Street Department.....Ben DeVries
Electric Department.....Bruce Boltjes
Water & Sewer Department.....Nikki Reiter
Law & Order.....Mark Schutte
Civil Defense.....Scott Bieseemeier

Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to designate First State Bank Southwest as the City of Rushmore official financial depository, that the City of Rushmore newsletter and website be used for City notices, and that the Worthington Globe be the official newspaper for ordinances. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made to sign the letter of engagement from the CPA firm of Dennis L. Rick, LTD to perform the City of Rushmore annual financial audit for the year ending December 31, 2019. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held about purchasing a projector and screen to use in the school community room for movie nights, etc. Mayor Bieseemeier had researched equipment and had a list of what would be needed. A motion was made to purchase the equipment listed. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

Clerk Gruis reported that Katanna Bieseemeier had made good progress on updating the website, and requested that Katanna be trained to do some of the routine daily work. There would be no extra cost from the software company to have the software programs on two computers. A motion was made to train Katanna to use the software. Seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor – Scott Bieseemeier
Clerk – Coleen Gruis