

City of Elk Run Heights  
Regular Council Meeting  
City Hall Council Chambers  
January 13, 2015  
City Hall 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Swope called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Smock, Heth, Bass and Wilson. Absent – Heideman. Quorum present. Smock/Heth motion to approve the January 13, 2015 Agenda. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Heth/Wilson motion to accept the Consent Agenda approving the December 9, 2014 regular council meeting minutes, the City Clerk's Reports, Investment Report, the Revenue and Expenditure Reports as of December 31, 2014 as presented, approving Resolution 2726 authorizing the payment of city bills, approving Resolution 2727 the 28E Agreement with Black Hawk County to provide Law Enforcement services for Fiscal Year 2015/2016, approving Resolution 2728 authorizing the transfer of \$26,616.00 from the Sewer Replacement Fund to the Sewer Fund for the final payment of the Generator. Roll call: Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope introduced Evansdale Mayor Doug Faas who commented they have presented the same Fire/Ambulance contract they presented before but the price has been reduced. Mayor Faas introduced Evansdale Fire Chief Kent Smock. Chief Smock detailed the number of fire fighters - paramedics, schedules, training, working hours, average number of calls and response times. Chief Smock answered questions presented by council. City Attorney Heather Prendergast questioned some of the liability verbiage in the agreement. Assistant Chief Justin Smock explained he holds a paramedic license which makes him solely responsible for his actions as required by the state and the City of Elk run would not be held liable. Any negligence goes on the person responding to the call. It is exactly the same as Elk Run's current policy with Waterloo Fire Rescue. Resident Al Cross questioned hospital preference per ambulance call. Chief Smock answered patient decides, if incapacitated the hospital is determined by the closest facility that meets the patient's needs. Examples of the response time for Waterloo were given. Chief Smock responded the Waterloo call volume is astronomical. Mayor Swope addressed the question that homeowners insurance policies are hirer for Volunteer Fire Departments. Chief Smock stated that it is insignificant and the Evansdale Fire Department has a three ISO rating and Waterloo has a four rating, and noted Waterloo provides back up if necessary. Mayor Swope thanked Mayor Faas and Chief Smock. Councilwoman Smock requested response times for the past years. Chief Smock will provide response calls for Waterloo and Evansdale for the last five years.

City Engineer Mike Dryden reported the concept plan for the Plaza Drive reconstruction project has been sent to the DOT. He is still waiting for INRCOG'S letter regarding the project. He hopes to have this agreement by the next month's council meeting. Mayor Swope questioned if Mike will be attending INRCOG meetings regarding this. Mike replied yes.

City Attorney Heather Prendergast stated she has been in contact with the consultant Attorney Bob Dieter who is laying out a time line and a blueprint to hook up with Waterloo – it is his only project at

this time. Attorney Prendergast expressed her frustration that the \$5,000 bond placed by Dwayne Eiler's was returned to him therefore the city will not be able to collect the cost associated with the removal of the trailer. Attorney Prendergast has the suit ready to go and will file. Attorney Prendergast expressed confidence in Attorney Dieter.

Mayor Swope updated the council on the Request For Proposal for the Trailer Court, explaining he did supply an RFP to a developer. Mayor Swope spoke to a realtor and she had recommended going with five lots, putting up a For Sale sign and asking \$49,900.00 for each. Smock ask this lot size. Mayor Swope replied 175 feet by 300 feet. Mayor Swope stated the realtor had mentioned putting septic tanks on these lots. Bass did not agree with asking price. Smock requested a meeting solely on the sale and development of the property. Wilson agreed and wants to get development started.

Smock/Heth motion to approve Resolution 2729 approving a 28E agreement with Black Hawk County to provide snow plowing and ice control service for South Elk Run Road at a cost of \$130.00 per year. Mayor Swope added this will free up some of Tom's time plowing. Roll call – Ayes 4. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope discussed the Waste Water Operator position, stating he had two applicants apply. One candidate is from New Hampton, has twenty years experience, is a Grade III operator, and is aware of the short term of employment. The other candidate is from Clear Lake and also obtains a Grade III license. Mayor Swope arranged for the monthly water and waste water reports to be signed by an operator till one for the city is hired. Attorney Prendergast questioned if the DNR was satisfied with this. Mayor Swope replied yes and he has been in constant contact with the DNR. Mayor Swope explained he has promoted our part-time plant operator Jaime Eder to full-time status and raised his salary in the interim. He also mentioned how Jaime and Tom have stepped up to the responsibility of running the Waste Water Plant. Smock noted Tom James did an excellent job plowing recently.

Bass/Smock motion to table approval of the VJ Engineering Huff Second Subdivision Final Plat at this time. Ayes – 4. Motion carried. Council agreed to place on the February regular meeting agenda.

Mayor Swope informed the council of the need to review the employee insurance policy. City Clerk Kristi Lundy explained the current insurance policy now states the city will cover five percent of the premium increase each year. She stated the way it is written makes it difficult when hiring a new employee since there is no starting point. Clerk Lundy recommended the city pay 95% of the insurance policy and the employee pay 5%. Council shared different variables on what the employee portion should be. Smock agreed the need to correct the policy so that the council would not have to negotiate every year with the employees on insurance. Mayor Swope recommended the council think about what they could agree to and be prepared to make a decision at the next meeting.

Bass/Wilson motion to approve the re-appointment of Bill Henninger to the Planning and Zoning Commission with a term to expire 1/1/2020. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

Mayor Swope gave his monthly report and presented radio read water meters. He has met with a salesman and states the device records a read simply by driving by the residence at a cost of approximately \$200.00 each. He added this would save thirty days of labor per year and would be a

total cost of approximately \$83,000.00, possibly coming out of the Water Depreciation. Mayor Swope ask the council to consider this. Bass ask if this could be done a section at a time. City Clerk Lundy thought possibly doing 100 meters per year. Lundy added there would be no appreciable discount for doing all residences at the same time. Mayor Swope reminded council after each quarter billing there are a dozen of the old meters that need repair.

During Old Business Mayor Swope told the council the emergency repair for the James Street lift station will be \$3,000.00 to fix the control panel and module.

Smock/Heth motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Ayes – 4. Motion carried.

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Tim Swope, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kristi Lundy, CMC, City Clerk