

City of Elk Run Heights
Eddis Winstead Council Chambers
Elk Run Heights City Hall
April 10, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-tem Tim Ratchford called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All present recited the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call of Council Members: Present – Ratchford, Bass, Wilson, Schellhorn and Smock. Quorum present. Bass/Wilson motion to approve the April 10, 2018 Agenda. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Smock/Schellhorn motion to accept the Consent Agenda, approving the March 13, 2018 regular meeting minutes, the March 22, 2018 Special Sewer Committee Meeting minutes, accept the City Clerk's Report, Investment Report, the Revenue and Expenditure Reports as of March 31, 2018 as presented, the Budget by Function Report, the Treasurer Report, approve Resolution 2893 approving and authorizing the payment of City bills, approve the March Building Inspector's Report. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

During Public Input resident Bill Van Wey, 307 Shirley Avenue, questioned parking in his yard. Bill gave council a diagram of his plans to rock a small area at the side of his house. Bill was concerned after reading the newsletter and another document from City clerk Kristi Lundy that if he proceeded with this plan he would have to undo it. Bill does not want to park in the street. Bill cannot afford to hard surface this, adding he has curb and gutter so rocks would stay put. Plus he has seen several rocked parking areas in the City. Bass stated just had this discussion any parking in front yards has be hard surface. Bill felt this should be on a case by case basis if a resident came to the council. Schellhorn stated the Ordinance states any new parking area has to be hard surface. City Attorney David Hosack commented a new Ordinance becomes difficult when someone has to be the first person. City Engineer Mike Dryden pointed out the City has an Ordinance now and allowing changes would set precedence. Resident and member of the City Board of Adjustment Al Cross, 434 Amber Lane, suggested Bill go to the BOA. Attorney Hosack agreed powers are separate so this is an option. Ratchford questioned if BOA could override the Ordinance. Attorney Hosack noted the BOA is a case by case basis. Al stated there is a \$75.00 charge to go to the BOA. Attorney Hosack felt the thought here is you are only getting serious requests. Mike suggested asphalt. Smock commented this Ordinance was done for the betterment and uniformity of the City. Resident Gene Edler, 424 Gilbertville Road, ask if the City is building a new sewer plant and not going with Waterloo. Ratchford replied yes working with Raymond on a 28E Agreement. Smock stated many in the City did not want to pay for Waterloo's infrastructure, plus the cost of hooking up and multiple other costs. Gene Edler ask the cost and how will it be paid for. Ratchford replied three million each City, paid with bonds and the City has been saving for it. Ratchford added your bill should not change much. Al commented the City has no choice in four years the plant has to change per the DNR. Resident Ron Pint, 441 Amber Lane, ask how long has the City been saving. Smock replied about two years now.

City Engineer Mike Dryden stated just today INRCOG's draft for Fiscal Year 2019-2022 Transportation Alternatives Program shows the Gilbertville/Lafayette Road Project is programmed for the year 2022, contingent on how the STBG funding is programmed at this coming Thursday's Technical Committee

meeting. Ratchford questioned if overlay budgeted this year for Gilbertville Road. Bass replied yes. Mike commented it will be four more years before the project is started. Ratchford felt the City will have a nice road, then a great road. Mike will attend the Thursday meeting. Mike discussed the Gilbertville Water Main Project, he has not heard from Road Ranger since meeting with them. Mike did meet with Jamie Methner who has an issue with the size of the culvert. Mike stated have met an agreement as long as he can pass the 100 year storm with one main culvert. Mike has not seen Jamie's plans and the culvert would be contingent on that. Mike mentioned also need to look at retention.

City Attorney David Hosack reported he is working on paperwork for City Realtor Emily O'Connell for 5303 Lafayette Road. Attorney Hosack commented City clerk Kristi Lundy had been sending notices on nuisance properties. Attorney Hosack may need the Mayor's help if taking any of these to court.

Schellhorn reviewed the four estimates he got for the James Street lift station fence. Schellhorn thought the Country Estates fence looks durable, the lattice top would show the warning light and their people would help our people with the gates. Schellhorn is recommending Country Estates. Ratchford questioned if they had a labor cost. Schellhorn replied no. Smock likes the aesthetic look of this fence. Schellhorn feels the sixteen foot gate on James Street and the twelve foot gate on Gilbert Street is plenty of room. Ratchford questioned if all lift stations have to be fenced. Council replied yes. Schellhorn stated the other lift stations can get by with chain link but this is in a kid's park. Schellhorn thought the Lafayette Road station might also need something extra. Wilson/Smock motion to approve the Country Estates fence/gate bid of \$4,379.06 for the James Street lift station. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Council reviewed, discussed and agreed to approve Resolution 2894. Bass/Wilson motion to approve Resolution 2894 the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Raymond for the new Waste Water Treatment Plant. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

City Realtor Emily O'Connell reviewed the offer on Lot #10, 5342 Lafayette Road, in the Elk Ridge Estates Addition. Smock questioned why the offer was so low. Emily replied because it has been sitting so long and the length/angle of the driveway. Wilson suggested a counter offer. Ratchford ask Emily's opinion on a counter. Ratchford suggested \$20,000.00, council agreed. Emily requested review of this counter offer be added to the Thursday April 12, 2018 Agenda.

Wilson/Schellhorn motion to approve a contract with Emily to re-list the 5303 Lafayette Road property as the contract will run out before the sale date and a contract to re-list the Gray Street property. Ayes – 5. Motion carried.

Smock/Schellhorn motion to set the Public Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget Amendment to be Tuesday May 8, 2018. Ayes – 5. Motion carried. Deputy clerk Bonnie Cross explained the street repair was budgeted for \$150,000.00 and the end cost was \$175,000.00.

Mayor Pro- tem Ratchford gave the Mayor's Report, passing around pictures of a resident's property sent by a neighbor. Attorney Hosack requested City Building Inspector Brian Wirtz get photos. Ratchford thought one warning, a fine after a certain time frame, then issue a summons. Attorney Hosack stated cite them, then seek injunctive relieve (the cost to City to clean up). Attorney Hosack suggested

possible processes to address this, adding could cite both owner/renter. Attorney Hosack advised determining who is in control of common areas.

During Old Business resident Chad Frush, 104 Shirley Avenue, commented about an old boat sitting in a resident's yard. Ratchford ask if it has current plates. Attorney Hosack cautioned junk is not looks but usefulness. Schellhorn mentioned the attraction to animals. Attorney Hosack added also a danger to children. Attorney Hosack will check the plates. Schellhorn ask what constitutes a junk vehicle. Ratchford replied if operational or not. Schellhorn thought the small business on High Street was becoming a nuisance. Attorney Hosack stated if zoned business it is a different deal. Resident Mark Brown, 105 Elk Run Street, commented the small house on Gilbertville Road coming into the City is an eyesore. Council agreed. Ratchford will contact the Mayor of Evansdale regarding this. Al ask council if they turned down Bill. Ratchford replied yes. Bill Van Wey commented this discussion emphasized the many other problems besides rocked driveways. Attorney Hosack requested City Inspector Brian Wirtz personally give him the photos of the complaint residence.

During New Business Smock commented she is working with Teen Serve, a group of teens who do work in the Cedar Valley. Smock stated the group is looking for small home improvement jobs as in repairing ramps, stairwells, outdoor/indoor painting and many other lighter tasks. Smock is requesting names and addresses for possible jobs. Wilson thought the City might have suggestions. Smock added teens will be coming in July, so applications would need to be in by May. Bill Van Wey offered his church as a place for the teens to stay or a meal. Smock was very grateful for his offer but noted the teens have a place to bunk. Smock did accept the offer for a meal. Smock ask all to e-mail, text or call her with suggestions. Mayor Pro tem Ratchford proclaimed May 6 – 12 as Municipal Clerks Week.

Bass/Schellhorn motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Ayes – 5. Motion Carried.

Tim Ratchford, Mayor Pro tem

ATTEST:

Bonnie G. Cross, Deputy City Clerk