

REGULAR SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 1, 2013 5:00 PM, City Hall

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

2. ROLL CALL: 7 in attendance, 1 absent (Everroad), Others: Marx, Koehn, Chief Christman, Zufall, Kohler, L Ford, Jensen, Coquillette, Captain Pank, D Karon,

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Ford thanked us for stop sign in mobile home park.

5. Mayor's Comments:

Halloween Proclamation read by Mayor.

Motion (Dohm/Thompson) to accept proclamation for Halloween. Passed.

Mayor noted a good job on budget.

He reminded everyone about new store in Spooner. A Re-Store which is part of Habitat for Humanity. Schluter noted there were high quality items.

6. Approval of Agenda:

Motion (Gabriel/Schluter) to approve agenda. Passed.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

a) *Accept Minutes from September 3, 2013 Regular Council Meeting;

b) *Accept Finance Committee Recommendation to approve Monthly Payables Check Numbers- 34198-34317, 13080702-13080704, 13082201-13082205, 13090501-13090503, 13091701-13091705, 20130805, 20130808, 20130819, 20130903, 20130909, 20130918;

c) *Accept Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Deny Request for Stop Signs, Smith & Walter;

d) *Accept Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Jack O Lantern Fest Street & City Parking Lot Closing Request & Pumpkin Roll Street Closing Request 10/12/13;

e) *Accept Municipal Operations Committee Recommendation to Approve Income Survey for Roundhouse Road, Franklin & Elm St Projects;

f) *Accept Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Proposed Project 675 Durabilt Road: Site Plan review & clarification of whether Section 86-281 Permitted Uses (11) Manufacture of goods from leather, but not tanning of hides or manufacture of leather applies to proposed business pending BOA approval on 10/7/13;

g) *Accept Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Certified Survey Map for Trygve Wistad, SW-NW, SE-NE, Section 35, T39N, R13W, Town of Evergreen, Extraterritorial Review- W7786 Hwy 70;

h) *Accept Safety & License Committee Recommendation to approve Applications for Licenses: Application for 2 yrs Operator License – 9/3/13 – 6/30/15 Shelly L Jones;

Application for 1 yr Operator License – 9/3/13 – 6/30/14 James W McConnen;

Picnic Licenses: Jack O Lantern Fest 10/12/13 Spooner Chamber of Commerce;

Motion (Stelter/Gabriel) to approve consent agenda without item c & f. Passed.

*Item C. - was discussed at Municipal Operations at length. It didn't meet any guidelines from State. Marx was instrumental in finding data regarding street traffic & state guidelines. Dohm liked community involvement on this stop sign. The information helped to develop criteria on stop signs in City. Dohm emphasized City is not ignoring issue but having more officers patrolling area etc.

Motion (Dohm/Thompson) to approve denial of stop sign at Smith & Walter Street. Passed.

*Item F. Marx discussed this briefly & noted Plan Commission did approve site plan. Marx introduced David Karon. He is proposing a tanning for taxidermy building. Chemicals & smell are usually issue. He has gone door to door & talked to all neighbors about his building & business. His liquids or hair will not end up on floor; he works there with his wife & will not work where it smells so bad you can't be there.

Additionally, he is working with a local person to make furniture. There will be a saleable product. He encourages anyone to attend hearing on Monday. His family will be living here, so it is in his best interest to do everything correctly & carefully.

Ortmann thought he did a good job on information he presented & answered many questions before they even came up.

Cuskey explained that it was going to Appeals Board because business of tanning is not listed as an allowable use. It is on this agenda to approve site plan.

Garment tan, leather tanning & taxidermy tanning & fur tanning – hair on tanning, there are many types of tanning. His is least invasive for smell. His products become taxidermy mounts not gloves & coats.

Motion (Dunn/Dohm) to approve site plan & pass type of tanning issue to Board of Appeals. Passed.

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

a) Property Planning & Development Committee Recommendation to offer \$40,000 for old fire hall:

Gabriel discussed this item. Committee has been kicking around idea of expanding Police Department for about 10 years. He feels purchasing old fire hall would be a nice temporary fix for PD to use as storage & for vehicles. Additionally, he felt that staff was very interested in keeping PD in close proximity.

Ortmann asked if we are not considering any turn key buildings such as the one in discussion at last couple of meetings.

Stelter commented that it could cost \$10,000 to run old fire district building & after looking at budget this morning, there isn't any room for more expenses without cutting staff.

Cuskey felt this building is not end game & he thinks there is a lot of sentiment with staff to keep police department on campus.

Marx is concerned about expense to operate old fire district building & also the need for space isn't being considered.

Cuskey has a concern about taking good property off tax roll by purchasing building previously in discussion. He sees no reason that Property & Planning can't move forward with a new building right away. He agrees that there are issues here that need updating.

Dohm is concerned about living with temporary fix approach. It doesn't work. He has seen it happen at school districts.

Dunn feels they are more accessible to public when they are right here in building.

Cuskey noted that as committee moves forward an entire complex will be considered.

Dohm asked Chief Christman several questions about how much will be relieved on their end if the City purchases old fire hall building. Christman noted that there are more & more records along with more & more evidence that is required to be kept. Additionally, there are more cases etc.

Dunn, what is value & asked if an assessment has been done. Either solution will cost & require borrowing. No assessment has been done.

Cuskey encourage property & finance to move forward. We have idea & space requirements necessary - now don't allow this to be a band-aid approach.

Thompson wants to know, if City is worried about increase in the budget of \$5,000 to operate building, how will we afford \$500,000 for a new building?

The answer is that it will come out of fund balance or City will have to borrow.

Mayor talked to Chief Vik of Fire District, property is listed at \$65,500.

Motion (Gabriel/Schluter) to purchase old fire hall for \$40,000, to be taken out of fund balance. Roll Call 5 yes & 1 no, one absent & Thompson abstaining.

b) Review status of the Spooner Ice House payment of overdue real estate taxes and other debt;

No action.

c) Approve Levy Limit Worksheet;

Dunn & Marx discussed this item.

Motion (Stelter/Dohm) to approve levy limit. Roll call vote 7 yes 1 absent.

d) Request for Web Site Update by Spooner Development Corporation;

No discussion. Will talk to them on what they really want. Most of City's web site is done in house therefore we can probably make what ever changes deemed necessary.

e) Proposed fund raising for parks proposed by Spooner Development Corporation "Kid Friendly Initiative";

One of the ideas they have is a splash park. Discussion.

f) 2014 Budget;

Dunn discussed levy limits & expenditure restraints. 2014 expenditures went up mostly because of health insurance & general cost increases. No new expenditures.

Levy limit of 1.18699 is limit, mill rate 9.52 – a slight increase from last year. A \$100,000 house would increase property taxes \$63.00. Cuskey commented that it was a real wrestling match to put this together.

Schluter asked about salary for City Shops & Law Enforcement. Feels these numbers are too high & he strongly disagrees giving our employees a wage increase.

Motion (Schluter/Dunn) approve the publishing budget. Passed.

g) Application for 2 yrs Operator License – 9/3/13 – 6/30/15 Hope M Hutton;

Motion (Thompson/Schluter) to approve 2 year operator license for Hope M Hutton. Passed.

9. **STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:**

a) Financial Report August, 2013;

Motion (Schluter/Dohm) to approve financial report. Passed.

b) Chief's Report - incidents during September, 2013;

Two new part time employees are going through their training. Department meeting Sept 9th. Will do a safety child seat inspection for people on Halloween. They have a planned lock down at school for practice. A lot of traffic stops. 201 cases & 1,777 contacts

c) BID Report;

Flowers were nice all summer. In September they met with artist that is doing mural of Aggies Corner Bar. Artist is working on it over winter & will be mounted this spring. People in mural could be a local person – use as a fund raiser.

d) NWRPC Liaison Report;

Dohm had nothing to report – business as usual.

e) Library Liaison Report;

Ortmann reported. Redoing the roof. Application for a refund on roof shingles that are bad is filed. She thought it was good City helped so much because City is only part of use of building.

10. **Adjournment;**

Motion (Dohm/Thompson) to adjourn. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Debbie Koehn, Clerk

Gary J Cuskey, Mayor