

MILACA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2016 MEETING

The regular meeting of the Milaca City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Harold Pedersen. Upon roll call the following Council members were present: Dillan, Muller, and Johnson. Council member Gahm was absent.

Staff present: Lerud, Gann-Olehy, Armstrong, and Toven.

Others present: Jerry Jacobson, Tom Sauer, Dan Hollenkamp, and Ashley Haynes.

Motion by Dillan, second by Johnson to approve the consent agenda:

1. Minutes of the February 18 regular meeting.
2. General bills: 816037E-816043E, #42032-42036, #42107-42118, #42122-42171, totaling \$90,373.48; Liquor bills: 916005E-916008E, #23570-23584, #23613-23628, totaling \$108,490.95.
3. City Treasurer's report.

All present voted in favor.

Mayor Pedersen invited anyone to speak to an item not on the agenda during citizen's forum. Tom Sauer said that the Rum River walk needs some attention. He said that there are some of the block off the top of the retaining wall behind the library; gravel and sand on the sidewalk, and brush that needs to be trimmed.

Jerry Jacobson said that that he, Ardy Becklin, Lola Vedders, and Lerud went to the East Central Regional Arts Commission to present on the band shell grant request, and the grant application was rejected.

There were no other comments.

A letter from the Chamber of Commerce requesting a donation for the parade was presented. Council member Johnson asked if the city budgeted for this donation. Lerud said that we typically do not budget for the donation but the funds are available in the liquor fund. Motion by Johnson, second by Muller to approve a \$1,500 donation from the liquor fund to the chamber to help with the cost of the parade, all present voted in favor.

There was no planning commission meeting in February.

Lerud said the minutes of the last economic development commission were in the agenda packet, and the commission meets tomorrow morning.

Council member Muller said there was no airport commission meeting in February.

Mayor Pedersen said that the police are investigating the damage caused on the sliding hill.

Council member Dillan said that the farmer's market is ready to go and the vendor meeting has already been held. He said the market will be open from May 18 thru October 19 at First National Bank's park and parking lot. Dillan said that the downtown flags are here and they will be working to put them up on downtown light poles. He said that MCAT is working on an effective plan for managing volunteers because the "got time?" program is not as effective as it should be.

There were follow up comments from the February citizen's forum.

The Volunteer Reserve Officer Program policy was presented. Lerud said the city hired Lexipol several years ago to manage the department's policy manual and this policy comes from them. He said the advantage to using their policy as opposed to another department's is that the language and format of the policy is the same as all the other policies. The council discussed changes and additions to the policy, with the following changes recommended: Section 1036.12(f) remove the word "counsel", 1036.12(h) add "CPR."

Motion by Muller, second by Johnson to adopt the policy with the changes, all present voted in favor.

Mayor Pedersen said there is a bid for performance LED lighting before the council. Jacobson said that there are two forms of lighting on the band shell; down lighting which is a soft white light and will not project onto any of the panels, and that was approved at last month's meeting. The other light is performance lighting which can be many colors and that will project onto the panels. Mayor Pedersen said the Legacy grant application included the performance lighting, and because the application was denied, the funds need to come from a different source. Jacobson said that the labor to install these lights was also included in the bids that were approved last month, and because the lighting units are changing there is a deduction of approximately \$3,500 from the other bids. Mayor Pedersen said that the band shell committee will continue to raise funds, but the lead time on ordering is approximately six weeks. Lerud said that the funds could come from the liquor fund. Motion by Dillan, second by Johnson to approve the bid in the amount of \$6,969.00 and covering the cost of what is not fundraised from the liquor fund, all present voted in favor.

Lerud said the State of MN has a "Shovel – Ready" program for industrial lots that lets developers know that all of the necessary work for a certified site has been done and construction can begin very quickly. He said that the fee for the application to the state is \$3,250, and East Central Energy said they are willing to pay that fee on behalf of the City of Milaca for the city's industrial property. Lerud said the city already has most of the needed data, but still have a couple of things to do before applying; Phase 1 environmental, soil borings, and a title commitment. Lerud said if the council wanted to proceed with the application he would bring bids back at the April meeting. The consensus of the council was to proceed and bring bids for the remaining work to the April meeting.

Lerud said that he met with Dave Walters, owner of Coin-tainer, and he is planning to rebuild in Milaca. Since it has been so long since the abatement agreement was approved, and the building has slightly changed, he would be required to go through the public hearing process again.

Council member Dillan offered Resolution No. 16 – 06 and moved for its adoption, second by Johnson

RESOLUTION NO. 16 – 06
RESOLUTION CALLING PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUSINESS SUBSIDY TO COINTAINER OF
MILACA
(entire text appears in Resolution book)

All present voted in favor.

Mayor Pedersen called for Council comments. Council member Johnson said that the Milaca Boy Scout troop leader is considering using Rec Park for their regional jamboree. He said it is an ideal spot and if we can get it scheduled it would mean about 500 scouts in the park that weekend. Johnson also said the Scouts would like to move their meetings down to the Gorecki community center from City Hall because the park is a much better setting for their outdoor activities.

Council member Muller said Stones Throw golf course has purchase the Lunn property north of the City Shop. He said they will initially be renting space for outdoor storage, and eventually moving their shop from down by the river to this location.

Council member Dillan said that Tess Shipman has ordered the flowers for the downtown flower pots and they will be ready to go in as soon as the weather gets nice. He said that he thought he should say a few words about Sauer's earlier comments about the walkway. Dillan said that when the idea was originally conceived, the maintenance would be done by the adjacent property owners and not by city staff. That has not happened, and he agreed that some improvements needed to be made. He said at a minimum they could be done on the school's service day in May, if they were not done before.

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Muller, second by Johnson, all present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Mayor Harold Pedersen

ATTEST

Greg Lerud, City Manager