

City of LeRoy MN – Council Meeting Minutes, August 6, 2018

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Thiel at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Brian Thiel, Council Members Kathleen Gottschalk, Ashley Huntley, Gene Miller, Jan Whisler, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White.

Also attending: Cole Wilcox, Wayne Hammon, Jr., James Loven, Axel Gumbel, Craig Jacobson, Steve Eisenhauer, and Rita Miller. All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council reviewed the items included in the consent agenda. Motion by Huntley, second by Gottschalk to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Input Time:

- No one present had anything to bring to public input time.

Standing Committee Reports:

- No council members had anything to report for standing committee reports.

Police Report:

- Deputy Wilson was not in attendance; there was no report to review.

In Old Business:

- Thiel reported that many work crews are here in town installing the fiber network.
- Miller questioned about the old tube slide that was removed from the South Park play structure. Jones reported the slide is at the city shop. Council suggested trying to market this slide on Craig's List.

Appointments of Election Judges for 2018 Elections:

- White presented the list of election judges willing to serve as judges for the Primary and General Elections in 2018.
- Motion by Whisler, second by Miller to appoint Georgia Eastvold, Jerry Utz, Mary Speer, John Kerr, Judy Orum, Mary Harrington, Deb Iverson, Craig Bucknell, Leslie Kerr, and Diane Whalen as election judges for the 2018 primary and general elections and set their hourly rate of pay at \$12.00 per hour. Motion carried 5-0.

2019 Budget:

- Thiel noted he would like to convene a work session in late August or early September to review the proposed 2019 budget. Council consensus to hold a budget work session on Monday, August 27, 2018, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center. Due to the Labor Day holiday falling on the first Monday in September, council consensus to hold the September regular council meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center.

Land Use Permits:

- There were no land use permits for council review.

The Communications File was reviewed. Items included:

- A thank you from the family of Alverna Miller was read.
- A letter from the LeRoy-Ostrander Athletic Department pertaining to advertising in the 2018-2019 athletic game programs was read. This advertising would not be considered a lawful purpose expenditure; no action was taken.
- Council reviewed a letter from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission stating the Commission opened an inquiry into the service quality, customer service, and billing practices of Frontier Communications.

- Council reviewed a letter from Mediacom related to rate adjustments that will go into effect on or about September 1, 2018.
- Council reviewed a letter received from Infants Remembered in Silence requesting the city adopt a resolution endorsing October 15th as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. Council took no action on this request.
- Council reviewed a request for funding from the Parenting Resource Center. Council took no action on this request.
- Council reviewed the LeRoy Public Library monthly meeting minutes.

2018 Street Maintenance:

- Jones reported the pothole patching has been completed; the bill for this has also been paid. Main Street still needs to be patched from the water main break. A time will be set up with J.C. Nerstad of Four-Season Maintenance to also consider other street repair projects including the area on South Everett Street by Northern Country Coop.

Water & Sewer Service Extension Update:

- Jones, Haugh, and Smith, the city engineering firm, presented a plan to extend water and sewer services from near the east lift station south across the Geraldine Byer property to a point where Northern Country Coop and Mel Albrecht could extend service lines to their respective properties. This option would require an easement from Ms. Byer. Miller noted there would need to be a cost share among the city, Northern Country Coop, and Mel Albrecht for this to proceed. A couple different options were also discussed to extend services to these two properties. More information will need to be gathered from the engineering firm prior to any future meetings with Northern Country Coop or Mel Albrecht.

Sewer Main Televising Update:

- White noted she had sent the information received from the sewer main televising to two different companies. There were technical problems with one file sent to a company; that file will need to be resent.
- Insituform sent a letter stating the pipe can be lined. Jones and White were directed to send the needed information to Insituform.

Security System Discussion:

- Thiel reported he will be meeting with Mike Bowe from On-Site Computers to gather information for a security camera system for City Hall and the Community Center. This will be further discussed at upcoming meetings.

School Bus Parking in City Shed:

- Thiel reported he had sent a note to Superintendent Sampson noting that the city council would be having the discussion about the housing of a school bus at the city shed at this meeting. No one was present from the school district.
- Huntley questioned if spots could be swapped with having a LeRoy City Lines bus housed in the school bus shed and the school bus housed in the city shed. Thiel and Craig Jacobson had measured the LCL buses today; there is not much difference in bus lengths between the school bus and LCL bus. Miller noted the city should protect what they own and keep the LCL buses housed in the city shed.
- Motion by Miller to discontinue the space in the city shed for an L-O school bus. Second by Gottschalk. Motion carried 5-0.

Lion's Park:

- There was nothing new to report on this plan.

Veteran's Memorial Update:

- Wayne Hammon, Jr. and Cole Wilcox were present. Mr. Hammon thanked Clerk White for bringing the proclamation for the 100th Convention of the American Legion to the council for their approval. This proclamation and many others will be on display at the convention.
- Mr. Hammon presented a drawing of the proposed memorial and explained the pavers that will be sold to help with fundraising.
- Mr. Hammon noted members of the legion post knew the trees would be removed in front of the community center for the memorial, but they did not know they would be removed when they were. Mr. Hammon reported he had talked to Ken Brownlow about the maple tree that had been planted in memory of his father George Brownlow. At that time, it was considered to trim the tree up; that was not feasible for the tree. Mr. Brownlow did request to keep the trunk from the tree if the tree had to be cut down.
- Mr. Wilcox noted it is the intention of the legion post to grind out the stumps, clean up the property, and let it sit over the winter through a freeze/thaw cycle before proceeding with the construction of the memorial. The present flagpole, given in memory of Mike Cartney, will be removed and replaced with three matching flagpoles with one of them named after Mr. Cartney. Mr. Cartney's family has okayed this decision.
- Council thanked Mr. Hammon and Mr. Wilcox for their time and the presentation of the plans. Motion by Whisler, second by Gottschalk to approve the concept of the memorial. Motion carried 5-0.

Nuisance Properties:

- White noted a couple of letters will be sent out in the near future. Thiel questioned how far the council wants to go when dealing with possible nuisance properties. Whisler also questioned if the council wants to go through the expense to clean up these properties with the possibility of not being able to collect the cleanup fees through a property tax assessment.
- Miller commented that if it is trash it could be a health hazard. Miller also noted that other communities with their police departments have the luxury of having their police employees knock on doors to make note of issues with the tenant.

At 7:35 PM on August 6, 2018, the regular public LeRoy City Council meeting was closed to discuss Personnel matters and all City Employees and the public were excused.

At 7:37 PM, the Closed Session started. Present were Council Members Gottschalk, Miller, Huntley, and Whisler, Mayor Thiel and Personnel Committee Member Rita Miller.

At 8:35 PM the Closed Session was concluded.

At 8:36 PM the regular Council meeting was re-opened.

A motion was made by Council Member Gottschalk, seconded by Council Member Miller. Motion passed 5-0: "City Council authorizes the Personnel Committee to designate a Committee Member who is also a Council Member to have the authority to act on the Council's behalf as a supervisory representative to speak individually with the City Clerk about his/her work performance. The Personnel Committee will report recommendations or concerns to the City Council for their review and guidance."

At 8:40 PM the Council meeting was adjourned.

Brian Thiel, Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer