

City of Blackduck
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, April 6th, 2015

The City Council of the City of Blackduck met in Regular Session at Blackduck City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on April 6th, 2015.

Councilors present: Mayor Lundberg, Councilors Christenson, Stade, and Patch

Councilors Absent: Loeken

Staff Present: City Administrator Christina Regas, Liquor Store Manager Shawnda Kisner, Public Works Supervisor Bob Klug; Chief of Police John Wilkinson; Golf Course Manager Jim Andersen; City Engineer Curt Meyer

Others Present: Milo Barclay; Jeff Wiebe, Molly Miron, Jon Eggers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00m and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Blackduck Forum

None one present

Approval of the Agenda

Councilor Christenson moved to approve the agenda as written seconded by Councilor Stade. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Items

Moved by Councilor Stade and seconded by Councilor Christenson to approve the following consent agenda items: Motion carried unanimously.

- March 9th, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes – Regular meeting
- March 9th, 2015 Liquor Committee Meeting Minutes

Correspondence - None

Presentation of March Bills, Fund Balance Report, and Transfers, and 2015 YTD Income Statements through February.

- Moved by Councilor Christenson and seconded by Councilor Stade to approve payment of Bill Report #1 in the amount of \$61,314.17 for the March bills. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Councilor Stade and seconded by Councilor Christenson to Transfer \$2000.00 from the WF General Fund to the WF Cemetery Fund. Motion carried unanimously.
- February 2015 Income Statements; Month End Remittance Report for March 2015 for review only no further action needed.
- Moved by Mayor Lundberg and seconded by Councilor Stade to approve \$750 to the 2015 Blackduck High School After-Prom party from the Liquor Rent Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative

- **2016 Road & Trail Projects** – City Engineer Curt Meyer was present to give updates on the following projects:
 - **Summit & Main** –Curt Meyer recommended applying for Public Facilities Authority (PFA) funding which is a loan program significant less than Rural Development rates. Rates run .5% - 1% depending on your mean household income. Curt will submit a PPL (Project Priority List) for water for the City. The other funding being considered is with Small Cities which is DEED money many times it is done in conjunction with Rural Development to make up grant money that RD can't match. But they will do some projects on their own. The

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timing for these funding options is June for PFA and the Fall for Small Cities. The City would be looking at January 2016 before knowing if the City would receive that funding. The Design is done, so the cost estimate received in March is accurate. Those numbers are going to be the closest until the project gets bid.

- **Blackduck Bike Trail Funding** – City was successful with TAP funding. Regas stated that the DNR Trails Connections Grant will not be approved/denied until July 2015.
- **Frontage Rd. & Pine Ave.** – City was successful with LRIP funding. The project was funded at 90% receiving \$357,000. The City’s component is 10%. Curt Meyer did not put a contract together for the project. Surveying will need to start in the next month. Total cost for the Trail and Frontage design & survey is around \$37,000. Mayor Lundberg suggested waiting for the contract to approve the costs.
- **Ordinance 2015-02 – Ordinance to Codify City Code Chapter 11 “Licensing” by amending Section 1120.36 “Location” to revise Sub. 2 “Outdoor Areas”.** Motioned by Councilor Christensen and seconded by Councilor Patch to approve the amended Ordinance. Motion passed.
- **Training Request** – Moved by Mayor Lundberg and seconded by Councilor Stade to approve sending Christina Regas & Angel Bublitz to the 2015 LMC Annual Conference June 24-26 in Duluth for \$370 in registration plus travel expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

- **Liquor committee** – Shawnda gave an update from the Liquor committee meeting:
 - Pull Tabs Expansion – E-Tabs are scheduled to go in to The Pond by late April; the bar is making changes to accommodate the new technology.
 - Outside Seating – Council voted on the Ordinance and the Pond will move forward with design ideas.
 - Table Quotes – Shawnda has ordered new tables to replace the old uneven smaller tables near the stage.

Department Updates

Public Works –

- a. *PTP water heater tank – Moved by Councilor Stade and seconded by Mayor Lundberg to approve an estimate of \$817.00 to replace the water heater tank that is too large and outdated for the sinks at Pine Tree Park. Motion carried unanimously.*
- b. *Liberty Drive Resident Complaint – City Engineer Curt Meyer will review the road and compile a letter to the City and Resident. Councilor Christenson requested more information about the letter asking what the letter will state. Klug stated that Curt Meyer did not see a safety risk after reviewing photos of the hump in the road and fixing it would be in a 5 – 10 year plan. Councilor Stade stated the hump is not terrible and that it runs with the road. The hump goes up but then tapers off. Klug stated that Meyer would survey the road before compiling his letter. No further action needed at this time.*
- c. *GSI Mapping 2015 – Beltrami County needs signatures on the map no further action is needed.*
- d. *Widseth Smith & Nolting Invoice for Summit & Main Design – Moved by Mayor Lundberg and seconded by Councilor Patch to approve payment of Invoice #102044 for \$4126.65 for design for the Summit & Main St. project \$2063.33 from the Water Sinking Fund and \$2063.32 from Sewer Replacement Fund. Motion passed.*

Liquor Store- no further action needed

Police Department-

- a. *Chief Wilkinson gave an update on his calls.*

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- b. *FBI Firearms Instructor School request – Moved by Councilor Christenson and seconded by Councilor Stade to send Chief Wilkinson to FBI Firearms Instructor School. Motion passed unanimously.*
- c. *DARE Officer – Chief Wilkinson requested the approval of council to send Matt Nikle to DARE school in 2016 and will look into funding to pay for his schooling. No further action needed.*

Fire Department-

- a. *Fire Protection Ballot Vote – Regas recommended the Council vote per the Fire Protection Contract. Councilor Patch asked if Regas is asking the council to make that decision. Regas stated that every town and City in the coverage area per the contract should cast a vote. Mayor Lundberg stated that he thought the townships were going to cast their votes and then come to the City of Blackduck asking what they would like to do. Regas stated that Mayor Lundberg was correct in his summary, however, per the coverage contract, the City of Blackduck should also cast a ballot since they are part of the coverage area as well. Mayor Lundberg stated that the council already had on record that with the revised contract in 2014 the City of Blackduck decided to have the chargeable calls left into the KOPP formula. Mayor Lundberg asked if the vote was tied at this time and was that the reason Regas wanted the council to vote? Regas gave the current results of the cast ballots without the City of Blackduck: 4.21 votes for YES & 3.91 votes for NO. Regas stated that the City of Blackduck's number of votes is 1.878. Regas stated that after the Fire Department Annual meeting of Parties that all towns and cities were to vote if they 'should' remove the chargeable calls. Jeff Wiebe of Hines Township asked to address the council. Wiebe stated the problem of the KOPP formula has a 'math' problem. When you have 0% fire calls your amount drops by half and the number of calls is dropping. In 2010 there were 52 calls total only one town had 0 calls. Now in 2015 6 of the towns have 0 calls but there are only 24 calls. Having 0 calls cuts their bill in half and the rest of the towns have to make it up. Because there are fewer calls the probability of the 0's is greater. As an example, Wiebe stated if the City of Funkley had half the calls their bill would be \$24,394.00. There is no way that City of Funkley can pay that amount they only have 6-10 people in the City of Funkley. Wiebe suggested the following solutions: 1. Drop the Formula and just pay off of market value. 2. Average fire calls over a longer period of time. 3. Change what is considered a 'chargeable call' 4. Eliminate the '0's' if you have no calls then you just pay your portion based on market value. Wiebe requested to going just straight market value its easier. Mayor Lundberg asked if isn't part of it 'baking' at the market value? Wiebe stated that the KOPP formula originally had 3 components: number of calls, market value, and population. For whatever reason the towns decided to not go with the formula that included population. But it's the 0 number of calls that are killing the formula. Mayor Lundberg asked that with the cast ballot the spreadsheet sent out phasing out the chargeable calls is how it has been proposed? Regas stated that yes over 4 years it would be phased out. Milo Barclay also from Hines Township stated that the towns with the '0's' are like playing the lottery. They are hoping that the 0's stay, but if they don't their bill will get larger. Councilor Stade stated that the chargeable calls are like 'luck'? Regas agreed. Councilor Patch stated that by removing the chargeable calls it will much easier for the towns to set their budgets. Councilor Christenson motioned to table the vote because he doesn't believe he has enough information to vote. Councilor Christenson stated he doesn't have the information to make a comfortable decision. Mayor Lundberg called for a second. Councilor Stade asked that the proposed phase would start in 2016 and Regas confirmed. Mayor Lundberg stated that this is a topic the towns wanted to discuss when the contract was reviewed. Mayor Lundberg asked for a second, no one seconded the motion. Motion dies. Councilor Patch moved to vote on the ballot Councilor Stade seconded that motion. Regas took roll call vote on the following: The fire protection contract with the service area townships and City of Blackduck should have the chargeable calls removed from the KOPP formula. Votes are as follows: Councilor Stade: Yes Mayor Lundberg: Yes Councilor Patch: Yes Councilor Christenson: Yes Councilor Loeken: not present to vote. Motion carried. Regas totaled the votes and then presented the results of the vote.*
- b. *Results of the Township/City Ballot Vote: Regas read off the votes and totals: Hines voted Yes; Hornet voted Yes; Birch voted No; Summit voted No; Taylor voted Yes; Hagali voted No; O'Brien*

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voted No; Tenstrike voted No; Funkley voted Yes; Langor voted Yes; Moose Park voted No; Blackduck voted Yes. Total votes for Yes = 6.088 & Total votes for No = 3.912 Regas summarized that in 2016 the calls would begin being phased out.

Municipal Golf Course-

- a. *Golf Course Manager gave a summary of memberships paid as of April 1st. With about 50% of the members paid. Jim gave an update on tournaments booked or in the works. Jim gave an update on advertising and marketing. Glow in the Dark Golf is in the works and first date schedule will be June 26th, 2015.*

Library –

- a. *Nance Kunkel was not present to give an update on the Library due to illness. Will table the update until the May regular meeting.*

“Good Things Happening”.

Adjournment

Moved by Councilor Patch and seconded by Councilor Christenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

Christina Regas, City Administrator

Daryl Lundberg, Mayor