

CITY OF MILLER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 11, 2020

The City of Miller is an equal opportunity employer.

The City Council met in special session at city hall at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ron Blachford, Aldermen: Jim Odegaard, Tony Rangel, Bob Steers, Jeff Swartz, Joe Zeller and Alderwoman SuAnne Meyer.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blachford called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

AGENDA: Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderman Steers to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bill Lewellen commented that DGR is here now installing the SCADA system for the electric department. The project is very near completion with a few areas that Eframson has to repair in the spring. Lewellen also asked if it is permissible to use flex time in the last 2 weeks of employment. The policy manual does not cover this topic. He was given the okay to use flex time for April 10. Brian Bonebright stopped at the end the meeting with questions regarding the sidewalk in front of his business. He would like to know who's responsible for fixing the damaged area. He was asked to contact Brad Letcher with the State as main street is next to a state highway and they have different specifications. He also asked if the city would consider assisting with payment of the new sidewalk and adding it to his taxes for payment. The council will research their options.

NEW BUSINESS

Finance Committee Recommendation: Alderman Steers gave the finance committee recommendation to increase the seasonal wages from minimum wage for 1st year employees to \$10.50/hour, subsequent years will be increased by 2% of the base per returning/experience year and 10% of the yearly rate added for CDL & WSI certifications. One seasonal worker with multiple years of experience and a CDL will start with the street department at \$14.00/hour and the pool manager wage raised to \$14.00/hour. The budgets will cover the additional wages.

Bill Lewellen - Resignation: Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderman Rangel to accept a letter of resignation from Bill Lewellen effective April 10, 2020. Mayor Blachford commended Lewellen for the great job he has done for our electric department in the past 34 years. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Utility Committee Recommendations: Alderman Swartz discussed some options for the surcharges on vacant properties. The bond documents state that the city shall establish a surcharge payable by each customer that receives or benefits from services of the project. There are vacant homes that have permits to be torn down that were not initially charged the surcharges. They recommend a letter stating that these homes must be removed by December 31, 2020, or they will be charged the entire year's worth of water and sewer surcharges. Vacant lots should continue to have services stubbed into the property for future buildings; however, no surcharge will be attached to such properties. Alderman Swartz turned the discussion to advertising for Bill Lewellen's replacement. The utility committee discussed the pros and cons of a Utility Director versus an Electric Superintendent. The council was asked to think about the options and decide on Monday, March 16.

Motion by Alderman Zeller, seconded by Alderman Steers to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Ronald Blachford, Mayor

Sheila Coss, Finance Officer

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