

Dwight City Council Minutes

October 15th, 2018

The Dwight City Council met for a regular Meeting on October 15th, 2018 at 7 PM. Council President Pam Goss opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other council members present were John Traynor, Richard Lindgren, John Talley, and Jan Davis. Mayor Galen Johnson was absent.

Also Present: Water Manager Ryan Taylor, City Treasurer Mina Miller, City Clerk Heather Brown, and City Attorney Ben Oleen.

Visitors present: Peter & Amy Marquardt, Larry Thomas, Ken & Jessie Batten, Mike & Tamara Shinn, Steve Iverson, Cindy Jensen, Joshua Autrey and Jay Evans.

Cindy Jensen reviewed the 2017 audit report.

Steve Iverson would like to hold Municipal court on any Thursday other than the third Thursday after 5:30 PM to make it easier for attendants to attend. Court will be held in the city office. An officer of the city (council member or employee) will write infractions, notify City Attorney Ben Oleen and then send it to Mr. Iverson to set a date for court. The fee per trial is \$50. There will be an arraignment held first where the citizen will plea guilty, not guilty or no contest. If they plea not guilty a trial will be set. If the defendant decides to appeal the decision of the Municipal Court Judge then they can take it to the District Court. Iverson stated that once notification has been given to a property owner that has an abandoned property, then the city can condemn the property and seize it. If they want to they can appeal it at the District court level. There was much discussion between Oleen, Iverson and council members.

Additions to agenda: None.

Minutes: Councilman Traynor moved to accept the minutes of the September 17th, 2018 regular meeting as presented. Councilwoman Davis seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Maintenance Manager Report: Donald Glessner was not in attendance but provided a written report. He reported that the sewer facilities are in good shape and operating well. The road grader has cylinders leaking. Heather will get in touch with Lester Pletcher about repairing the leaks. Gravel was placed on Oak Street, Osage Street, Cypress Street and at the stockpile. Two more loads may be needed.

Water Manager Report: Water Manager Ryan Taylor was in attendance and provided a written report. Biological samples have all come back normal. He put a new tire on the Hustler mower. A leak was found at an abandoned property on Cypress Street. There was significant water loss due to the leak. He will check other abandoned properties in town to insure there are no other leaks. He reported flushing all of the hydrants. He also winterized the bathroom at the City Park. He will removed the banners on Main Street for the winter.

Dog Catcher Report: Ricky was not in attendance but provided a written report along with an animal bite report and a Morris County Sheriff Narrative Report from August 23rd, 2018.

City Treasurer Report: City Treasurer Mina Miller reviewed the quarterly treasurer report and reported that everything balanced.

City Clerk Report: Heather provided a written report and financial reports were reviewed. She reported that she and Mayor Johnson closed empty safety deposit box #407 at Farmers State Bank in Dwight. A substantial water leak was found during Cindy Jensen's audit. Heather spoke with Steve Euler, Rural Water, to find the error. Numbers were compared and the master meter was tested which all proved to be ok. Ryan Taylor and Steve were able to isolate the leak to an abandoned property on Cypress Street.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Johnson provided a written report.

Review and approval of bills: Councilwoman Goss moved to approve the bills as presented with the correction on Ben Smith Trucking's bill and the addition to Tyner Insurance for \$623.00. Councilman Traynor seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence: Councilman Traynor made the motion that the City of Dwight supports in spirit the Morris County Public Transportation in applying for the current grant. Councilman Talley seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Heather will deliver the support letter to the County Clerk.

Council members read the Morris County Sheriff's Department report of a dog attack that occurred on August 23rd, 2018. The male dog has allegedly been removed from the property.

Old Business: Councilman Traynor does not have anything in order to establish a City Park Advisory Committee yet.

Community Building Update: Heather will contact a few area foundations regarding grants for the Community Building.

New Business: Lifetime dog tags was tabled.

Councilman Talley made the motion to appoint Steve Iverson as Municipal Court Judge for the City of Dwight. Councilwoman Davis seconded. There was a lot of discussion. Motion carried 4-1 (Traynor).

A bid for work at the well house was received from Dwight Electrical and Plumbing. The concrete work will be a separate bid.

Open Forum: Steve Iverson will return on Tuesday morning to be sworn in.

Adjournment: Councilwoman Davis made the motion to adjourn with Councilman Talley seconding. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM. The next regularly scheduled Council meeting will be held on November 19th, 2018 at 7 PM.