

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN  
Regular Council Meeting  
Thursday, May 15, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Marc D. Tall at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 410 Ludington Street.

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Council Members, Patricia A. Baribeau, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Ralph B. Blasier, and Michael R. Sattem

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager James V. O'Toole, City Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

Pastor Erik Heskin, of Bethany Lutheran Church, gave the invocation and led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2014, as submitted.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Discussion of City Board and Commission Appointments.

Blasier moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the City Council Agenda as amended.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** – None

**BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT**

Glenn VandeWater, spoke in support of the public library. He asked Council in future budgets not to make any more cuts to the City Library. Need to figure a way to improve the City Library revenues.

Blasier commented on the revenue decline from the County. He suggested members of the public contact their County Commissioner.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing and Adoption – FY 2014-15 Budget.**

The Council has conducted four (4) public hearings and two (2) budget work

sessions to set a proposed FY2014-15 operating budget. This was the final public hearing on the FY 2014-15 City operating budget and would establish a City millage rate of 17.00 mills.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Tall asked if there was any public comment.

City resident Elizabeth Keller spoke in support of the City Public Library and spoke of her concern of declining Library's budget and revenue. She stated the City Public Library was an asset to the community and Delta County. The Public Library contributes to the mental health of the community

Hearing no further public comment, Mayor Tall closed the public hearing.

Council Member Baribeau stated the Delta County Board of Commissioners cut their annual contribution to the City Public Library, and County penal fine contributions were declining. The City has approached the County Board and asked that the County contribute \$50,000 to help supplement the City Public Library operating cost. Many County residents use the City Public Library, and the City shouldn't be picking up all the costs. She asked individuals to contact their respective County Commissioner.

**PH-1** Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, to establish the City millage rate at 17.00 mills for 2014-2015 Budget Year and to adopt the 2014-2015 City Budget as published.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Blasier, Beauchamp, Baribeau, Sattlem, Tall  
Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval – Water/Wastewater Plant Chemicals – Water/Wastewater Department.**

Administration sought Council approval to purchase water and wastewater chemicals for routine plant operations from the listed suppliers based upon the unit costs as stated:

- a. Wausau Chemical Corporation, Wausau, Wisconsin. Award of a bid to furnish approximately 35,000 pounds of hydrofluosilicic acid for use in drinking water treatment in the amount of \$44.685/CWT 2750 lb. tote.
- b. Chemtrade Chemicals US, LLC, of Parsippany, New Jersey. Award of a bid to furnish approximately 100 net tons of aluminum sulfate liquid in the amount of \$477 per dry ton.

- c. BHS Marketing, Salt Lake City, Utah. Award of a bid to furnish approximately 95 net tons of soda ash in 50 pound bags for use in drinking water treatment in the amount of \$18.75/CWT 50 lb. bags.
- d. Kemira Water Solutions, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas. Award of a bid to furnish approximately 50 tons of dry weight ferric chloride in the amount of \$567.65 per dry ton.
- e. Hydrite Chemical Company, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Award of a bid to furnish approximately 10 tons of liquid chlorine in the amount of \$57.00 per cwt ton cylinders and \$77.00 per cwt 150 lb. cylinders.
- f. Thatcher Company of Montana, Salt Lake City, Utah. Award of a bid to furnish powdered activated carbon in the amount of \$0.639 per lb. bagged.

**NB-1(a-f)** By Council Member Beauchamp, seconded by Council Member Blasier, that the consent agenda items be approved as proposed in the unit prices as stated.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Beauchamp, Blasier, Baribeau, Sattem, Tall  
Nays: None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1146, the Appropriations Ordinance, Including the Millage Rate of 17.00 Mills and Setting the Date of Monday, May 19, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

Once the City Council approves the budget, the Council must approve a tax levy and authorize appropriations to implement the budget. Administration recommended a special meeting for Monday, May 19, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. be scheduled for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of the Appropriations Ordinance No. 1146.

**NB-2** Blasier moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of May 19, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of the Appropriations Ordinance No. 1146 and millage rate of 17 mills.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1147, the Tax Levy Ordinance, and Setting the Date of Monday, May 19, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption.**

Section 9, Chapter VIII, of the City Charter requires the City, by Ordinance, levy taxes that may be necessary to meet the appropriations' needs. Administration recommended a special meeting for Monday, May 19, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. be scheduled for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Tax Levy Ordinance No. 1147.

**NB-3** Sattem moved, Blasier seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of May 19, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Tax Levy Ordinance No. 1147.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1148, the Electric Rate Ordinance, and Setting the Date of Monday, June 2, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

Annually, the City Council sets electric utility rates for the next fiscal year. Council was asked to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 1148 and to schedule the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m.

**NB-4** Baribeau moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Ordinance No. 1148.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1149, the Wastewater Rate Ordinance, and Setting the Date of Monday, June 2, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

Annually, the City Council sets wastewater utility rates for the next fiscal year. Council was asked to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 1149 and to schedule the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m.

**NB-5** Beauchamp moved, Baribeau seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Ordinance No. 1149.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1150, the Water Rate Ordinance, and Setting the Date of Monday, June 2, 2014, for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

Annually, the City Council sets water utility rates for the next fiscal year. Council was asked to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 1150 and to schedule the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m.

**NB-6** Baribeau moved, Blasier seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Ordinance No. 1150.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1151, the Solid Waste Ordinance, and Setting the Date of Monday, June 2, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

Annually, the City Council sets solid waste rates for the next fiscal year. Council

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was asked to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 1151 and to schedule the second reading and public hearing for June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m.

**NB-7** Blasier moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to set the date of June 2, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. for the second reading, public hearing, and adoption of Ordinance No. 1151.

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 1152, Fireworks, and Setting the Date of June 5, 2014, for the Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption.**

The City Council was asked to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 1152, an ordinance to aid in the regulation and use of consumer fireworks and the public display of fireworks by any association or group of individuals; and set June 5, 2014, for the second reading and public hearing and adoption.

Public Safety Director Ken Vanderlinden advised PA 256 of 2011, allowed municipalities to adopt ordinances which control days and times when fireworks could be used around the holidays.

During discussion the following items were reviewed:

- Suggested allowing more days before and after certain Holidays;
- Suggested requiring vendors post the time and dates when fireworks can be used;
- City Attorney Peterson stated that these changes would be substantive changes to the proposed ordinance. Staff should make changes and reschedule the first reading for Monday, May 19, 2014;

**NB-8** After discussion, Baribeau moved, Blasier seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to direct Administration to update the ordinance with changes suggested, and report back Monday, May 19, 2014, for the first reading of Ordinance No. 1152.

**Update – The City of Escanaba Recycling Program.**

City Public Works Director Bill Farrell advised aggressive enforcement efforts and a Public Education Program was started during the last few weeks. He reviewed how the recycling was accomplished at the Delta County Landfill. He concluded the enforcement efforts appeared to be working.

Nathan M. Gauss, a graduate student of Northan Michigan University, reviewed a proposed Policy Brief on Recycling in the City of Escanaba. After the project was done, he commented on his discussions regarding City policy and budget concerns. One of his suggestions was to purchase clear recycling bins so the truck driver can see into the bins. The City needed to come up with incentives to promote recycling. He also suggested a clear trash container with clear bags so again the driver could see inside of the container.

Council Members thanked Mr. Gauss for his information.

### **Update – Sale of the Power Plant – City Manager’s Office.**

Manager O’Toole updated the Council and public on the latest developments relating to the sale of the Escanaba generating facility. He advised Escanaba Green Energy did not meet certain conditions related to their closing requirements. Those conditions were recently met, and Escanaba Green Energy advised they anticipated a new closing date shortly.

### **APPOINTMENT(S) TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

Council Members discussed the decline of volunteers from members of the public to serve on City Boards and Commissions;

- Not enough volunteers on City Boards and Commissions;
- Suggested reappointing Board Members if it was their desire to keep serving;
- Suggested a one year extension on Recreation and Loan Board reappointments;
- Long term to have Administration revise the City Board and Commission Policy and report back to Council.

Mayor Tall, with Council consensus made the following appointments:

- David Jones to the Housing Commission, term ending June 2019;
- Reappointed Karen Moore to the Recreation Advisory Board for a one year extension, ending June 2015;
- Reappointed Tim Kobasic and Roni Beaudoin to the Loan Administration Board for a one year extension, ending June 2015;

Council Members encouraged City residents to apply and serve on City Boards and Commissions.

### **BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Council Members reviewed City Board and Commission meetings each attended since the last City Council Meeting.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elizabeth Keller commented on the proposed fireworks ordinance. She did not like extending the range of time to use fireworks for every holiday.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Bark in the Park was scheduled for June 1, 2014.

Hearing no further public comment, the Council adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Richards, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marc D. Tall, Mayor