

**City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2015, 2015**

Mayor Van Hal called the regular meeting to order at 6:30p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said. Council Members present were Leroy Smith, Clarence Voitalla and Bret Mattheisen. Guests at meeting were the meeting was Pamela Withage, Fayette Locknikar, Paul Borgstrom, Edward Carlson, Michael Rono Sr., Zack Huber, Norman Rohl, Mark Huber, Marie and Paul Odenthal, Jay Personous, Terri Wickham, Paul Wickham, Alice Korwes, Neal Gaalswyk. Staff present was Chris Korwes and Craig Boyer.

Visitor Form:

Paul Odenthal wanted to know if Q3 was going to fix the asphalt on the sidewalks, as they look bad. He was informed they were going to fix them.

Ed Carlson had a trailer house and an 18 X 24 house that burned. He asked if Council would look at what he is planning to rebuild. Michael Rono Sr. is a contractor with Alfa Roofing and Drywall LLC. He will be building the new building. Council will have to determine if it will need a variance or not.

Motion by Council Smith to adopt agenda and add the TIF property to new business, seconded by Council Voitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith to appoint Chris Korwes as Acting Clerk for the City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Voitalla, Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith to have the March Minutes redone, seconded by Council Voitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Odenthal was sworn in to fill the vacancy of Roger Albrecht. There was not a motion to appoint.

Motion by Council Smith to table the water rate increase until next meeting, seconded by Council Mattheisen, motion carried unanimously.

Letter was sent to owner of the old feed store by attorney. Tim Caughey has gained access to the railroad house. Acting Clerk Korwes will contact Mr. Caughey and gather more information regarding timeline, and what needs to be done.

Council Smith has met with the school about ball fields. So far, this is just a feasibility study. Right now, there is no money in the budget for this. Mr. Hollingsworth has the property next to the City property. This is being discussed with him as well. It is still in the infancy stage and too early to say.

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Snow Plow Policy needs to be brought back to Council for approval.

The workload in the office is being done. Terri Wickham stated she would be back in a couple of weeks and will get everything caught up. Chris Korwes and Craig Boyer have been stepping in to answer phones in the absence of the City Staff.

Motion by Council Odenthal to keep the website we currently have, seconded by Council Weitalla, motion carried unanimously. This can be revisited in a few months.

Motion by Council Mattheisen to set cleanup day for May 16, 2015, second by Council Weitalla, motion carries unanimously. Letter will be sent out when staff returns to work.

Staff is still gathering information on Lions sign up town.

Mayor Van Hal had a statement to read from a City Attorney. "City of Pillager is in arrears of 10's of thousands of dollars. As instructed by the City Attorney, Mayor will entertain a motion to set a resolution to authorize a Councilman to track down the details to this TIF account, including reviewing our contract, examining incoming disbursements, this may include conversations with our bank, the County Treasurer, access to financial records on the clerks computer, and/or other appropriate means to gather this information for business need only". Terri Wickham stated they were not paid immediately as they had not paid their taxes. She stated the taxes have likely been paid by now. Ehlers are the ones that put together the payment so when she gets back she will get the information to them and will move forward with the payment. It is not as far in the arrears as they make it sound. **Motion by Council Smith to have Acting Clerk Korwes, draft a letter on City letter head to Senior Living Options stating this will be attended to the first week of May, seconded by Council Weitalla, motion carried unanimously.**

Motion by Council Smith to authorize Sue Van Hal to sign the bank signature card, seconded by Council Mattheisen, motion carried.

Kerry Swenson will be holding a meeting on the Countywide Emergency Management plan in Backus on April 30, 2015 from 1-3. Staff has been working on this for two years.

Camp Ripley will be at the May meeting.

Neal Gaalswyk updated the Council on The Crossing Plat. There was a conference call with Josh Stevens, Neal Gaalswyk, Senator Paul Gazelka, Rep Mark Anderson and Deputy Clerk Jan Loftis. This call was regarding the information on a bill in Congress to allow the State of Minnesota to

convey the Crossing property back to the City. Cass County would like to step back and have the State convey the land directly to the City of Pillager. The bill has not passed as of the time of meeting.

Zach Huber from the Boy Scouts is observing the meeting to earn a badge.

Craig presented a couple of quotes for street sweeping. It will be approximately \$1200 to rent an off broom. The sweeping company that Motley uses sent a quote of approximately \$2200.

Motion by Council Smith to go with the off broom, seconded by Council Woitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith to do the roads with the calcium chloride treatment, It would be about 5400 feet that they would put down for a cost of \$2498, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Odenthal to accept the bid from Hummel Construction to have the roof of the pavilion at the City Park fixed, It will cost us our deductible of \$250.00, seconded by Council Woitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Odenthal to allow the Pillager Lions to install a flagpole at the Pillager City Park, seconded by Council Woitalla, motion carried.

The Pillager Family Center will be having a community meeting on June 5 at Pillager Fairgrounds.

Mayor Van Hal wanted to know what the protocol is for being notified by the Police Chief when there is criminal action in the City. A document from the City of Pequot Lakes was handed out showing their protocol. Council Mattheisen was not in favor of the document as it stands. There may be some reasonable suggestions that could be sent to Council. This was tabled by Mayor.

Reports from maintenance and Water departments are in the packet.

Fire Association is in discussion stages of how they bill Townships and the City. This is based on East Gull Lake and how they are billed if they join the association. These will at least double the amount the City pays. It would be approximately \$55.00 per household.

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Pillager Lions would like to add some decent playground equipment and to put a water fountain at the park next year. The Lions are putting together grants for this. They are also putting together a community garden. This would be just south of the School. Add this to the Cleanup day letter. Les Swift will be the contact person for this.

Motion by Council Odenthal to approve Council Mattheisen to attempt to get access to the phone records from CTC, seconded by Council Voitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith to authorize information to be given to the union committee, items to be included would be a copy of all job descriptions, copy of employee benefit package including insurance, and a timeline from the Maintenance staff of time needed for daily, weekly, and seasonal tasks, seconded by Council Voitalla, motion carried.

Motion by Council Smith to allow Mayor Van Hal to contact the City Attorney regarding Union Negotiations, seconded by Council Voitalla, motion carried unanimously. Mayor Van Hal will give a report to Council as to what was discussed with the attorney.

Council feels we should stay with the current attorney until the union contracts are done.

Motion by Council Mattheisen to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Terri Wickham addressed concerns about things happening with the City Staff.

Motion by Council Voitalla to continue meeting to Tuesday April 28 2015 at 6:30 seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

**City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2015**

Mayor Van Hal reconvened the meeting 6:30p.m. Council Members present were Leroy Smith, Clarence Voitalla, Bret Mattheisen and Paul Odenthal. Guests at the meeting were Norman Rohl Dan Hawley, Ginger Thrasher Cindy Barnett, Steve Qualley, Dan Frank and Alice Korwes. Staff present was Chris Korwes.

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Visitor Form: Cindy Barnett inquired about the property of Ed Carlson. She wanted to know when it would be cleaned up, as it will be getting warm and will smell. She was informed Mr. Carlson is working on it.

Dan Frank from the Initiative Foundation was here to update Council on a grant program they have available. There is a five-step process that takes three months to do. The Study part is no cost. Mayor Van Hal wants the City to collaborate with the Pillager Family Center. This will be added to the agenda for May 12 Council Meeting.

Motion by Council Smith to close the City Council Meeting to discuss the Union Contract, seconded by Council Mattheisen, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith to reopen the regular Council Meeting, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mattheisen to send a copy of the draft of the Union Contract to the Union Representative, seconded by Council Woitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Council Smith updated the Council on the flagpole being installed at the City Park. A building permit is needed for this.

Motion by Council Mattheisen to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sue Van Hal-Mayor

Chris Korwes-Acting Clerk