

**City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2015**

Mayor Van Hal called the regular meeting to order at 7.00 p.m. Council Members present were Leroy Smith, Paul Odenthal, Bret Mattheisen and Clarence Woitalla. Guests at meeting were Jim Tertin, Richard Van Citters, Seth Berry, Tim Caughey and Ann Meyer, Staff present was Terri Wickham.

City Building Inspector Tim Caughey spoke with the Council. He addressed the Tanya Hyatt permit and the problems that happened with her permit. He went through the building code process so Council understands what is going on. The State has what is called a Mini/Max Code. City cannot be any less restrictive, or more restrictive. Tim gets the application; he contacts the applicant, gets more detail and processes the plan. The state says the Building Official should not help get the plans together. This puts them into a liability issue. He showed the first set of plans he received for the project they were discussing. There was not enough information on the first set of plans presented. The last fee schedule adopted by Council is from 1997. The Valuation is based on the square footage of the project and is the same for everybody. Square footage for the 2007 schedule is \$82 per square foot for a single-family residential rate. This is what is used for the Pillager permits.

Visitor Forum

Richard Van Citters would like to see the agenda and the minutes emailed to him. Staff will add the agenda and the minutes to the City Website when approved. Jim Tertin from the Cass County EDC was here to say thank you to the City for the continued support given to the EDC. Seth Berry wanted to know what the worst-case scenario, tax wise, with the Crossing Bond would be in the future. He wanted to know what the tax increase will be until the bond is paid off. He was informed we refinanced the project to lower the interest rates that will lower the payments. We should have enough in reserves and from other debt retirement that if we do need to go to the residents it will not be for at least five years. That would be worst case and if nothing happens out there. Ann Meyer was here regarding the Alexander property. We do not know what his plan is but he has until the first of the year to clean it up. It is not a conforming lot so they would need to have a variance to rebuild anything on there.

Motion by Council Smith to approve the November Council minutes as presented, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mattheisen to approve the expenses as presented, seconded by Council Woitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Ben Wiebolt the temporary police officer for the City of Pillager was hired as part-time on a **motion by Council Smith to hire Officer Ben Wiebolt**, part time for 28 hours per week at \$17.00 per hour, vacation, sick and personal leave will be prorated after June 28, 2016 his hire date, medical benefits are not included, seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

Lakewood Health System is expanding the Pillager Clinic. They will be doubling the size of the current building. The anticipated project cost will be \$5.3 million. We are the busiest clinic, second only to Staples. They are expecting to start in 2016.

There is a gentleman who wants to put in a used car lot. Right now, there are many cars parked behind the antique stores uptown. Council will check it out and discuss next meeting.

Motioned by Council Smith to approve the 2016 City levy at 244,250.00, this is a seconded by Council Weitalla, motion carried with Council Odenthal opposing.

Thank you from Mayor Van Hal for the plant from the City for the passing of her father.

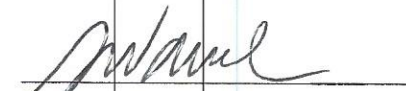
Motion by Council Odenthal, to approve the 3.2 Liquor License for Petro Plus, seconded by Council Weitalla, motion carried unanimously.

Fire protection is starting the 2017 budget next month. They will be presenting options then on how to assess for fire protection. Council would like the formula to stay the same as before East Gull Lake was added.

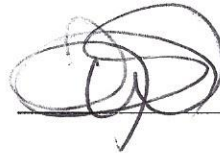
Motion by Council Weitalla to approve the bills as presented seconded by Council Odenthal, motion carried unanimously.

They are working on the Labor Negotiations. Council Mattheisen stated he thought a copy had been sent to the Union Representative. Mayor Van Hal has told the City Attorney to get this moving.

Motion by Council Smith adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Mattheisen, motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Mayor Sue Van Hal-Mayor



Admin/Clerk Terri Wickham