

MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Johnson, Councilors: Jimmy Gordon, Paul Bergley (arrived at 5:01 p.m.), Steve Lundeen and Dan Collison

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, City Clerk Jaden Strand, Community Development Director Sheila Sellman, City Engineer Jason Cook, Liquor Store Manager John Jacobi, Public Services Director Matt Sylvester, Finance Director Mike Betker and Chief of Police Travis Muyres

D. Public Comment

None

E. Committee Meeting Items

1. Police Updates

- Speed sign has been ordered and there is a 6-8-week turnaround.
- Police interviews are being held for the vacant police officer position and then the Police Department will be fully staffed.

2. Liquor Updates

- The liquor store changed to Zabinski Services for Firewall protection as the Liquor Store was using Phoenix Sentry which costs \$660 a year. With Zabinski it costs \$423 a year for a 3-year prescription.
- Every year credit card processing fees go up and switching to Card Connect saves the City \$224-\$248.67 per month.
- Staff has been weighing options for a website online ordering system for online orders and curbside.
- Product planning and replacement will be performed by vendors and approved by Liquor Store Manager John Jacobi prior to the new store opening.

3. Council Chamber Rental Policy

- This policy is from 2008 and was outdated.
- Changes to the policy include:
 - Requirements for Damage Deposit.
 - Updated tobacco use policy.
 - Removal of Library Room rental.
- Recommendation from Committee is to move forward and bring to City Council for consideration.

4. Veterans Memorial Discussion

- Cost for memorial widely varies depending on materials used.
- Recommendation from Committee is not to include this with the amphitheater and for Parks, Recreation and Events Coordinator reach out to the Lions Club, VFW, etc. to see if they would like to donate to the implementation of a Veterans Memorial site.

5. Lighting and Snow Maker for Sledding Hill

- If lighting was added to the sledding hill now it would be approximately \$5,104.00.
- The other option is to wait until the amphitheater is constructed and install lighting at that time.
- The cost to purchase a snow making machine would be approximately \$2,500.
- Recommendation from Committee is to wait to install lighting with the amphitheater and staff to reevaluate snow making machine purchasing in August.

6. Irrigation Controller Program and Zoning Requirements

- Consideration of an irrigation reimbursement program was discussed at Goal Setting in January to reduce water usage for residents thus paying less and reducing the cost to the City to treat the water.
- It was discussed that this program could be similar to the raingarden incentive program where there would be a maximum amount allocated per year.
- The current zoning requirements for irrigation of new homes was reviewed.
- Recommendation from Committee is that the zoning requirements do not need to be amended as new homes are not required to put in irrigation, only the green spaces in development areas and further discuss irrigation controller program during budgeting.

7. Take Home Vehicle Use Policy

- Take home vehicle use was discussed at the last COW meeting. It was decided that the Chief of Police and Police Lieutenant will the positions for consideration as to whether to be assigned a take home vehicle.
- It was discussed that a maximum distance that the employee can drive to/from their home should be further considered.
- Consensus from Committee is for the maximum distance be 15 radius miles and have added GPS and bring to City Council later that night for further consideration.

8. Lighting Infill

- The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the years 2021-2030 has funds available for lighting in-fill.
- Staff was asked to provide locations and a timeframe on when these lights could be installed per CIP.
- 22 locations have been identified that would need additional lighting.
- Recommendation from Committee is to reach out to County to see if they would like to help the cost of lights on County Road 5 and Highway 65 and bring a formal schedule back to Council for further discussion.

9. Holiday Lighting Event

- This event would need public/private partnership.
- Proper course of action is establishing a budget for the partnership through the end of the year.
- Parks, Recreation and Events Coordinator talk with businesses to identify those willing to purchase displays through donation/sponsorship.
- Displays range from \$270-\$25,000.
- For those that donate a sign would go in front of the display of who donated it.
- Recommendation from Committee is for Parks, Recreation and Events Coordinator look into details of the event and if businesses want to donate displays.

10. Easter Egg Hunt Event

- At 2020 Goal Setting there was discussion on Isanti hosting an Easter Egg Hunt.
- Staff did not have enough time to put together an Easter egg hunt for 2020.
- The Isanti VFW does host an Easter egg hunt each Spring and will likely have one again this year. The VFW has not set a date yet on when that will be.
- Recommendation from Committee is to talk to VFW about joining efforts for an Easter egg hunt and not to host a City egg hunt independently.

11. Mobile Food Truck Chapter 160; Fees Discussion

- Recommendation from Committee is to change background investigation fee in Chapter 160 to \$35.00, daily license fee of \$10.00, monthly fee of \$50.00 and yearly fee of \$130.00 and post for 10 days and bring to City Council for consideration of approval.

F. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Jaden Strand
City Clerk