

Osakis City Council – Special Meeting
September 28th, 2020
7:00 PM

Present: Randy Anderson, Justin Dahlheimer, Laura Backes, Keith Emerson via phone
Absent: Jerry Olson
Others Present: Angela Jacobson

The September 28th, 2020 meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Randy Anderson at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – All present as indicated above

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carries –
Absent: Olson

Project #197: Water

Council received Resolution 2020-19 to review.

Resolution 2020-19 was presented by Anderson, seconded by Dahlheimer, to give Clerk Jacobson approval to sign the Rural Development application for the loan/grant. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously Absent: Olson

Project #482: Covid-19

Council received a copy of the face mask requirement for Executive Order 2020-81.

Discussion was held regarding employees wearing face masks. There seems to be an issue with wearing them – people have a difference of opinion if they should be wearing or not.

An email from the League of MN Cities states you can ask the employee for documentation for reason for disability for not wearing a mask.

Jacobson would like some direction from the council.

Council would like to see face shields for those that cannot wear face masks for health reasons. OSHA commented to Backes that they are allowed.

The supervisor is responsible to remind employees to follow the preparedness plan and orders.

Face masks should be worn in trucks when riding together or when the employee can't maintain the required safe distance or if training in close contact.

More discussion will be held regarding this matter at the next workshop.

Each department can report how they are following the plan.

Project #360: Employee Mediation

Council received a draft copy by the union for language to settle the mediation. Council also received a draft copy by the city for language to settle the contract with draft copy of discipline letter to be put in the file.

Council reviewed some concerns – The union had issues with the draft language the city had. Attorney Brandon reviewed and proposed the draft with the changes in blue in an effort to resolve the mediation.

Jacobson expressed feelings that the union is very disturbed in the mediation settlement that the city did not reach out to resolve the issues and blames this on the council that there is unfinished business left.

Jacobson expressed feelings that they are being fed bad information and the council is just wanting to see this move forward with a reminder in the file and not a reason to discipline.

The union does not want to see any oral reprimand in the file.

It has been left at no agreement and they have 30 days to decide what to do.

Project #309: Drawing of City Hall and Shop

Council received the following:

- Cost of city hall and shop.
- Financing of city hall and shop.

The council discussed how they should move forward. Costs could be different based on actual bids.

The cost estimate for all is based on estimates – but we don't want it to be fancy, just useable.

The city can get up to about 2.5 million for financing.

If remodeling at current location, can get Covid funds okayed and can go ahead with the funds we have to do it.

Council also wants a drawing of a proposed fire hall. If they were to build in the future this can be a phased plan. Council would like to see all the options looked at and fit on the property and look to phases as needed.

Jacobson will also look at grants available and what that does to a project.

Council feels we if we have it all done, can do what's needed and set up to expand in the future when needed.

Covid funds can be used to put in offices and council chambers now and should use what we can now.

Jacobson is working on bids to get those done. Council feels if these funds can be used to help city hall have a better environment for staff and the public, then it would be a good use of the money for the time it is needed to be used.

Council feels we can still look to move forward with expansion of new buildings.

Project #373: Polices

Council received a draft copy of the policy changes of the time keeping policy the council suggested.

Attorney and supervisors will review before council approval.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor – Keith E. Emerson

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson