**Willow River City Council Meeting**

March 5, 2018

Approved April 2, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Willow River City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, March 5, at the Willow River City Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Brent Switzer.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Council Present:** Brent Switzer, Sheldon Johnson, Chris Ketchmark, Darryl Poslusny and Vickie Whitehouse

**Staff Present:** Diane Nelson and Kathi Bennett

**Others Present:** none (due to weather)

**Approval of the Agenda:** Chris made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Darryl second. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Special Guest, Molly McGregor (by phone) –** Molly was following up with us regarding more information from other locations with rock rapids and also a summary of comments from the public meeting in December. The most important thing seemed to be the depth of the reservoir. The second was the tax cuts in property values. She has kept all of the documents so if we would like to see them, let her know. Molly had some handouts that she had sent to us with examples of rock rapids in other cities (see attached). Molly reviewed the questionnaire that cities that had dams replaced with rock rapids had answered. Brent asked if they had received the petition that was done by area residents. Brent also asked if they were planning on attending our April meeting. Molly thought that they were planning on it. Sheldon asked if they could also bring information regarding cities that have had their dams replaced. Sheldon stated that the majority of the people in the community want the dam replaced so if they could please bring some information on that when they come in April. Molly thought that the engineers were working on both dam replacement as well as rock rapids. Molly said that she would look into it.

**Willow River Fire Department, Dave Kliniski** – We have had 4 fire calls and 18 EMS to date. The in-house air will be done when the weather gets a little warmer as well as taking some of the trucks to the FCI for work. The snowmobile is in service. We had a new door opener put in on the med rig door. The circuit kept blowing there so we had it replaced. The Relief Association will be paying for new structure gloves at a cost of around $1100. Gas meters and an infrared camera have been ordered with the donation money that has come in. The Fire Department has implemented a screen in their office that will display IamResponding to aid them in call response. The SCBA grant is underway and SCBA’s will be getting ordered. The Relief Association will be paying the balance of that also. The Department will be at St. Urhos Day in Finlayson. Steve Ronning started and they will officially be interviewing him and he will be in touch with Diane to get paperwork done. Shawn Eckerman is the new truck and equipment officer. The Department had a donation of $100 come in. The Cadet program is in progress and Dave asked the City for permission to proceed with that.

**Public Works, Todd Anderson -** Vickie gave an update for Todd. He had told her that he put a new blade on and that he has done a lot of plowing.

**Water and Sewer, Katie Bennett –** Kathi had 13 Friendly reminders, 8 shot-off notices and 0 shut-offs. Drew Abrahamson will be getting charged for a new meter. When they removed the siding, his got lost so he asked for a new one.

**Clerk, Diane Nelson –** Shelly from the DNR contacted the City and asked if anyone here wanted to be a Fire Warden. We have had someone in the past and I told her that I would check. We received a Bridge Inspection report for the bridge on Willow Street. The USDA loans come out of our savings accounts currently and I have changed them to come out of the checking account. CTAS doesn’t recognize payments out of a savings account because they shouldn’t be done, so this will be easier for bookkeeping. Tia Grutkoski is trying to put together a group of area leaders to try to promote the area as a whole. The meeting was originally scheduled for the same night as our City Council meeting but has been canceled due to weather, so she will let us know when it is rescheduled. Brent said that he is willing to go if anyone wants to join him to let him know.

**Zoning, Sheldon Johnson –** Cell phone tower permits will be addressed at the April meeting.

**Old Business**  -

1. Willow River Area Days - Brent went to the Commercial Club meeting and they agreed to organize Willow River Days for 2018. However, they will probably opt out of it in further years. It seems to be an issue of insurance. Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th.

**New Business:**

1. Permit for Willow River Fire Department to have gun raffle November 2018. Vickie makes a motion to approve the Fire Department to have their gun raffle in November 2018. Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor. Diane had a bid award letter for MES. They were the successful bidder for the SCBA’s. Vickie makes a motion to approve the SCBA contract to go to MES. Darryl second. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. Tom Brabec legal description. Tom is changing the property lines of the two lots so that they are more even if he decides to sell one. He is asking the City to approve the new legal descriptions. Vickie makes a motion to accept the changes. Darryl second. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Vickie brought up the need for a new laptop for Kathi in the office. She is thinking of spending around $500. Sheldon asked who does our IT work and was told that we have used Cyberts in the past. Darryl makes a motion to buy a new laptop with a cap of $600. Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion made by Sheldon to adjourn the meeting. Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Nelson