

MINUTES
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 AT 6:30PM

ROUTINE BUSINESS

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. In attendance were Mayor Stroinski; Alderpersons Lawcewicz, Abramczak, and Smriga; DPW McCredden; Police Chief Verges; Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Pogodzinski; and City Administrator Reeg. Alderpersons Baumgarten and Wnek were absent.

2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

None.

3. Consent Agenda—The City Council, with a single vote and without debate, may act upon the following items. Any council member wishing to debate an individual item may request that it be considered separately

- a. Approval of minutes from August 10, 2015 Regular City Council meeting
- b. Approval of minutes from August 18, 2015 Special City Council meeting
- c. Approval of Operator's License for Nicole J. Heck
- d. Approval of Operator's License for Jenna L. Shore
- e. Approval of appointment of Jay Seehaver to Parks & Recreation Board

Reeg noted that there were no minutes from August 18th since there had not been a quorum and that meeting cancelled.

M/M/S (Smriga, Lawcewicz) to approve items a, c, d, and e. Carried unanimously.

Item #5 was taken out of order at this time, but minutes will be kept in numerical order for record-keeping purposes.

4. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:

- a. Administrator's Report, Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register & Journal Entries

Reeg also mentioned the city picnic would be held on September 23rd, he reminded the community about the fundraiser for the Senior Center roof, he noted that boards, committees and commissions would be asked to give input on the 2016-2020 Capital Plan over the next month, and reminded the Mayor and City Council about the LWM Annual Conference at the end of October. He then noted that due to his new employment and pending relocation, Alderperson Baumgarten had submitted a letter of resignation from the City Council.

- b. Police Department monthly report

Nothing in addition to the monthly report.

- c. Public Works/Utilities monthly report

Nothing in addition to the monthly report.

- d. Library monthly report

Belongy noted that she had received an award covering all expenses for her to attend the National Association of Rural & Small Libraries Conference in Arkansas.

- e. Reports from various committees

It was noted that the Tourism Commission would be unveiling the Police Cow on September 16th at City Hall.

- f. Reports from elected officials

None.

OLD BUSINESS

5. Presentation of FY2014 audit by Jon Trautman of Schenck SC

Jon Trautman presented the audit results. In general he noted that the city was in good financial condition. Cash reserves were healthy—well above the industry standard. Of note was the rate of return for the water utility. It was actually negative in 2014, but that was directly attributable to the winter emergencies handled that year. It was not of concern unless it did not rebound—but there is no reason based on historic rates of return to believe it would not. The sewer rate of return was on a slow upward trend as well. He reminded the City Council that he was always available for questions and concerns. No action taken.

6. Update on procedures, costs, and implications of adding a canine unit to the PD

Officer Geske was still gathering data and was not far enough along in the process for a report at this time. No action taken.

7. Discussion and possible action relating to S. Adams St. bridge project including:

a. Update on easements and property acquisition

Reeg gave an update that there was a pending offer that should close by October 2nd. The project looked good to go.

b. Award bid for construction

3 bids had been received, with Haas Sons being the low bidder at \$288,204.33. M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Abramczak) to award the bid to Haas. Carried unanimously.

c. Potential construction schedule

It was agreed by general consensus to move forward with the project at the earliest possible date in order to complete as much of the construction as possible this fall.

8. Discussion and possible action relating to Well #9/Water Treatment Plant repairs including:

a. Well #9/Water Treatment Plant repairs

The water treatment plant project was nearing completion, but additional measures were needed to permanently address the recurring issues with sediment. Pigging and televising of water lines, along with installation of a new section of water main to provide new services further from the mixing zone were 2 projects being evaluated.

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Smruga) to authorize up to \$50,000 for projects to be unanimously approved by the Mayor, City Administrator and Director of Public Works. Carried unanimously.

b. Implications and options for residential services being affected by precipitants

There was discussion regarding the impacts to 2 homes that were in particular being significantly impacted. It was agreed that it should be a top priority to get resolution for these homes.

9. Discussion and possible action relating to CTH X Sewer Cleaning & Televising project's diagnostic results

There were various conditions encountered throughout the process. Some areas were in relatively good condition, some were good candidates for lining, and some might need to be replaced. There was one section that should be re-televised according to McCredden. It was agreed by general consensus to table the subject until October.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Discussion and possible action relating to proposals for new uniform service for PWD

Reeg and McCredden had received proposals from 2 potential new vendors (Aramark and Huebsch). Both would save significant money over the current vendor (~50%). After full review, Reeg and McCredden both felt that Aramark was the right choice. The exact program was being discussed, but they were seeking permission to enter into a 3-year agreement with Aramark. M/M/S (Abramczak, Lawcewicz) to approve a 3-year agreement with Aramark. Carried unanimously.

11. Approve granting of easement to Xcel Energy at Gorman Avenue well fields

Reeg reported that City Attorney Salm was not comfortable with the indemnity language in the requested easement, and the alternate language was being negotiated.

M/M/S (Smriga, Lawcewicz) to approve the easement contingent upon City Attorney approval. Carried unanimously.

12. Discussion and possible action relating to non-compliant drain tiles and floor drains connected to sanitary sewer system

During the CTH X televising process, additional data was discovered which further proved that there are many drain tiles and floor drain connected to the sanitary sewer (which is non-compliant with local and state regulations). It was noted that the STP processed nearly twice the water volume each day as compared to the volume pumped from the wells. It was agreed that an inspection program be established and property owners given time to come into compliance. McCredden suggested inspections could be performed during the winter. Reeg suggested it could be postponed until June 2016 when inside outside reads were being done anyway to eliminate duplicate trips. It was agreed by general consensus to wait until June 2016.

13. Discussion and possible action relating to request from Catholic School to establish parking restrictions on E. School Street

M/M/S (Lawcewicz, Smriga) to delegate authority to temporarily restrict parking on E. School Street to the Catholic School for those portions of the street fronting property owned by the Catholic School between 7:30 and 8:30am and 2:30-3:30pm during the school year. Carried unanimously.

CLOSING BUSINESS

14. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens

None.

15. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items

There was some discussion regarding the need to address safety issues with pedestrian traffic crossing Hwy 73 before and after school.

16. Adjournment

M/M/S (Smriga, Lawcewicz) to adjourn at 7:57pm. Carried unanimously.

Date of Publication

Ray Stroinski
Mayor

Randall D. Reeg
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer