

**MINUTES
CITY OF NEGAUNEE REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 12, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Negaunee City Council was held on Thursday March 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Negaunee Senior Center.

Members Present: Mayor Haines, Council Members Menhennick, VanStraten, Schuhknecht, Visser, and Smith

Members Absent: Council Member Kangas

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Visser, supported by Council Member Schuhknecht and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one wished to comment.

WATER RELIABILITY STUDY

As a result of a 2014 Water System Sanitary Survey we were informed that we may not be in compliance of Part 16 of Act 399 which requires community water systems to prepare water system general plans. And Part 12 of Act 399 requires community water system's to prepare a reliability study and update it every five years and the DEQ is requesting that it be completed. The city solicited four proposals. The proposals submitted by GEI and C2AE were not inclusive of hydrant flow test which is essential for the study, while Trimedia and UPEA was.

The estimated cost of the city obtaining a hydrant test is \$11,840 but that too would have to go out for bid and upon review of the proposals there is a crucial need for that to be done very soon in order to have the data compiled for the reliability study to be completed.

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member VanStraten and unanimously carried to allow the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Trimedia in the amount of \$16,000 inclusive of hydrant testing for work to be performed to ensure compliance with Part 12 & 16 of Act 399 with monies coming from the Water Fund Fund Balance.

CITY HALL CLOCK TOWER BIDS

In 2014 the rubber membrane roof of the city hall clock tower was replaced due to water infiltration. After the repair was made we saw a significant reduction in the amount of water entering into the tower but were a bit surprised that we were seeing any, after the recent repairs.

It was found that a large portion of the existing leaks are penetrating between the inner and outer walls. Bids were solicited with only one bid being submitted.

A motion was made by Council Member Menhennick, supported by Council Member VanStraten and unanimously carried to award the project to the Markell Company in the amount of \$31,970 with monies coming from the General Fund Balance.

UTILITY TRUCK PURCHASE – WATER/SEWER FUND

The City of Negaunee is a member of MiDEAL, which is an extended purchasing program which allows Michigan local units of government to use state contracts to buy goods and services. Local governments benefit directly from the reduced cost of goods and services and indirectly by eliminating the time needed to process bids. Although we are a member of MiDEAL, experience has shown that on occasion we CAN get better prices locally and the city likes to afford local businesses an opportunity to provide materials and services to the city while the city, in turn, helps sustain the local economy. The City of Negaunee has obtained a quote on a proposed purchase through the MiDEAL system (Attached). In this quote, is contained enough information that local dealers should have been able to provide a competitive quote if so wished for the cities consideration. This was NOT a sealed bid process. Frei Chevrolet, Marquette, MI \$34,883.23, Red Holman Buick GMC, Westland, MI (MiDeal) \$35,312.20 Public Service Garage, Marquette, MI \$35,644.67 Fox Negaunee, MI No Proposal.

SANDER CHASSIS PURCHASE/EQUIPMENT SPECIAL LEVY FUND

Our DPW Director and staff have done research as to the needs of our department and recommends purchasing a 2015 Peterbilt 367. Marquette County Road Commission has a contract in place for the purchase of four identical vehicles that was obtained through the competitive bid process.

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member VanStraten and unanimously carried to allow the City Manager to pursue the purchase a 2016 Peterbilt vehicle for the unit price of \$131,475 financing and equipping it with monies from the Equipment Special Levy Fund and its Fund Balance.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: February 12, 2015 Regular Minutes, Claims and Accounts in the amount of \$512,295.53 (checks #71723-#71847), Revenue/Expenditure Trial Balance Reports, Water Let Run Policy, Street Decertification Resolution, Street Certification Resolution, City Manager Review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bill Richards addressed the Council regarding the flooding in the street at his address of 82 Croix St. He stated that it routinely happens there every year and wants to know who is responsible.

Mr. Frank Paris addressed the Council regarding the thawing of freeze ups. He thanked the City for their fast action but asked that the policy be reviewed and that the City be proactive on let runs.

Ms. Linda Carrilli addressed the Council regarding a fire at her house last year and the recent fire on her street. She asked that the City look into their policy for thawing pipes.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Menhennick thanked everyone for their comments and stated the thaw policy should be looked at.

Council Member VanStraten stated that he has had a lot of water issues in his neighborhood and the DPW does respond quickly.

Council Member Schuhknecht stated that she was not aware of any issues and the Council will get answers. She recognized the Robotics team in the audience.

Council Member Visser thanked everyone for their comments.

Mayor Haines thanked everyone for speaking and that the Council likes to know who the citizen's feel about things. He recognized the robotics team and the foreign exchange students.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Thornton stated that the pipe thawing policy in the City of Negaunee is the safest around because of the fact that our crews have the Electric Department with them and thaws are not done during the night. He stated that downstate citizens are told to call a plumber. If people were put on Let Runs it would affect water rates. He stated that there were several hundred thaws since early March. He stated that if the Council wanted to stop this practice it would need to repeal the current ordinance.

ADJOURNEMENT

There being no further business to discuss a motion was made by Council Member VanStraten, supported by Council Member Schuhknecht and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm

Ann Ducoli
Deputy Clerk