

**MINUTES
CITY OF NEGAUNEE REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Negaunee City Council was held on Thursday October 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Negaunee Senior Center.

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

Members Absent: Council Member Visser

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Thornton stated that the Closed Session should be removed due to lack of information on rates.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Tonja Acker-Richards addressed the Council regarding how to obtain minutes after the meeting. Attorney Houghton stated they can be found in the Council packet in the Library before the monthly meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING-2016 CITY BUDGET

Mayor Haines opened the Public Hearing.

No one from the public wished to comment. Mayor Haines stated that he had received one communication regarding the cemetery.

Mayor Haines closed the public hearing.

HOLDER TRACTOR PURCHASE

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member VanStraten and unanimously carried to purchase a Model C270 Holder Tractor from Industrial Marketing & Consulting in the amount of \$103,840 and financing it for three years with monies coming from the equipment millage fund.

SALE OF CITY OWNED FIBER

Peninsula Fiber Network has offered \$8500, for our 36 fiber drop from our meet point to the water tower. This fiber currently serves no other purpose to the city and no future need is anticipated. The city will loss approximately \$1,800 annually but will no longer have maintenance or upkeep expenses and will now collect annual pole rental form Peninsula Fiber Network of approximately \$180 a year.

A motion was made by Council Member VanStraten, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to sell the 36 fiber drop to Peninsula Fiber Network for the amount of \$8,500 contingent on a settlement with the Negaunee Cable Company.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Smith and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: September 10, 2015 Regular Minutes, October 1, 2015 Budget Special Meeting Minutes, Claims and Accounts in the amount of \$824,422.57 (checks #72711-72852), Revenue/Expenditure Reports Trial Balances, Master Agreement to Purchase Services – In Home Services, Marquette County Hazard Mitigation Resolution.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Thomas, AFSCME Representative thanked the Council for meeting with the Union within the past week and asked the Council to make a motion here tonight to direct the City Manager Jeff Thornton to stop their petition letter to MERC asking to eliminate the City Hall employees from the Union/Bargaining Unit and to allow them to remain in the AFSCME Union.

Mr. Bill Richards addressed the Council regarding who turned off his water at 82 Croix St. and why does this person still have a job. He also discussed the Croix St. reconstruction project.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council Member VanStraten commented on his handout regarding 911.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

At this time the City Attorney made his comments before the Council. He wanted to clarify that the issues at 82 Croix St. are a lateral issue and per ordinance is the responsibility of the property

owner. He reviewed the history of the Croix St. reconstruction project and that sanitary sewer was never a part of that project.

Council Member VanStraten commented on the various phases of the Croix St. reconstruction project and that it had no bearing on 82 Croix's lateral issues.

Mayor Haines commented on the underfunded pensions and the Tilden Mine support letter. Council Member Schuhknecht thanked everyone for their comments and showing their support. She stated she was a union family but that she feels it is in the best interest of the City to not have these people in the union.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Thornton commented on October Fest, the CCI Letter, that minutes do not contain verbatim comments, the sander truck and winter time work.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Ann Ducoli
Deputy Clerk