

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

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

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

Members Absent: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jim Thomas spoke regarding Agenda Item #6.1 - 2016 City Budget. He stated that he hoped money was budgeted for the streets in town.

2016 CITY BUDGET RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht and supported by Council Member Visser to adopt the 2016 Budget Resolution.

FINANCIAL POLICIES – 2016 FEE SCHEDULE AND FISCAL POLICY

A motion was made by Council Member VanStraten, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to adopt the 2016 Fee Schedule and Fiscal Policy as presented.

DELINQUENT UTILITIES TO THE TAX ROLLS

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to certify the list of delinquencies in the amount of \$7,519.82 and cause them to be spread upon the December tax roll for collection.

GARBAGE COLLECTION EXTENSION

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to allow the City Manager to enter into an extension agreement of 120 days to help facilitate through the bid process.

DUMP TRUCK PURCHASE

A motion was made by Council Member VanStraten, supported by Council Member Kangas and unanimously carried to allow the City Manager to pursue the purchase of a 2000 Sterling dump truck in an amount not to exceed \$38,000 with monies being used from the sale of the bucket truck and general fund balance.

SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to purchase an ACS Power Angle Blade from Miller-Bradford & Risberg Inc. in the amount of \$23,775 plus shipping with monies coming from the equipment millage fund.

RESOLUTION HONORING OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS

A motion was made by Council Member Kangas, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to approve the Resolutions honoring Council Members Menhennick, VanStraten and Mayor Haines for their service on the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Schuhknecht, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to approved the Consent Agenda as follows: October 8, 2015 Regular Minutes, October 15, 2015 Budget Session Minutes, October 22, 2015 Budget Session Minutes, Claims and Accounts in the amount of \$484,345.89 (checks #72853-#73053), Revenue/Expenditure Trial Balance Reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

State Representative Scott Dianda addressed the Council regarding the Council's action taken at the September meeting. He stated that the Council should be supporting the four City Hall union workers.

AFSCME Field Representative Shana Thornton addressed the Council. She stated that she had been dealing with the City of Negaunee over the past 21 years for negotiations. She implored the Council to get the facts and please sit down with the Union. She stated Chief Frusti has worked as the Chief for the past 11 years when he got his promotion, Ann Ducoli has worked for the City for the past 15 years and 7 City Manager's, Judy Iwanski has worked for the City for 7 ½ years and Brian Downing left a union job in Ishpeming to come back to the City of Negaunee for employment. She asked the Council to please rescind its motion.

Mr. Stu Skauge who represents the school employees addressed the Council. He stated that he never thought he would see something like this happen in Negaunee. He stated that Dominic Jacobetti would go bezerk. He asked that the Council do the right thing tonight.

Mr. John Thomas AFSCME Representative addressed the Council. He stated that the City Manager had made a comment in the past that no one in this City would care about these four union workers. Mr. Thomas stated that people do care.

Don Larson addressed the Council. He stated that this union has been in existence for the past 30 years. They have been loyal employees. He asked the Council to do the right thing.

Mr. Jim Thomas addressed the Council. He commented that he used to be on the Council and that the secretary and the Council have always had a mutual respect working together.

Mr. Bill Richards addressed the Council regarding who shut off his water at 82 Croix and why that person is still working for City.

Mr. Brian Karrigan from the Labor Council was here tonight to support the four City Hall union workers and that the Labor Councils stands behind AFSCME. He stated that the Council should be investing in their employees.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Smith welcomed the new Council Members.

Council Member Kangas welcomed the new Council Members and thanked the outgoing members.

Council Member Menhennick thanked the citizens and that it has been an honor and privilege to work on this Council. She stated that it can be very stressful and that the Council Members try to do what is best for the City. She stated that the trust has been broken and that she hopes the new Council can move forward.

Council Member VanStraten gave his best wishes to Council Member Schuhknecht on becoming the Mayor and congratulated the new Council Members. He stated that it has been a privilege to sit on this Council.

Council Member Schuhknecht welcoming the incoming Council Members and that it has been an honor working with the outgoing Council Members. She stated that she hopes to move forward as the new Mayor.

Mayor Haines welcomed the new Council Members.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Thornton commented that there is money budgeted for streets. He commented on the DEQ testing and being pro active with the hydrant flushing. He commented on the data gathering for the Master Plan survey.

CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Houghton commented on interest in City Government.

At this time the Mayor Haines received a plaque from incoming Mayor Schuhknecht.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a motion was made by Council Member Kangas, supported by Council Member Visser and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Ann Ducoli
Deputy Clerk