

APRIL 21, 2020 MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

A meeting of the Cottonwood City Council was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 7:00 pm, via Zoom with Mayor Corey Moseng and Council members; Joel Dahl, Mike Horner, Shannon Geihl, and Shawn Myers present. Also present were Clerk-Administrator, Teather Bliss; Lyon County Assessor, Mark Buysse; Lyon County Sheriff, Eric Wallen; and Public Works Director, Randy Fenger. Community members present were Harry Roers, Dean Stanton, and Barry Weidauer.

Mayor Moseng called the meeting to order and led in the Flag Pledge.

A motion by Shawn Myers to close the regular meeting. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried.

Sheriff Wallen updated the Council on the latest incident report from the Sheriff's Office. The golf course was a topic of conversation due to Governor Walz' announcement of outdoor activity resuming.

A motion by Mike Horner to close the City Council meeting. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried.

A motion by Joel Dahl to open the public hearing of the Local Board of Appeals and Equalization. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried at 7:10pm

Buysse performed roll call for the Council and provided an update that Lyon County has hired a new appraiser, Dan Springler. Buysse also notified the City Board that Shawn Myers and Joel Dahl are certified until July 1, 2021 and Corey Moseng is certified until July 1, 2020.

Buysse then presented the 2020 Local Board presentation for Cottonwood. The presentation showed a preliminary market value of \$77,780,200 and thirteen good sales with a 99.71% final ratio. In Cottonwood, overall, there was a 15% decrease for on lake properties and a 5% decrease for off lake properties. Buysse also presented the different tax credits available to citizens.

The first property presented to the Board for review is parcel 22-009003-0 owned by Doug and Laurie Gregoire. The current value is \$280,000 but with the loss of a building, the proposed value is \$181,000. Buysse called roll call of the Council with all in favor of the change in value.

A motion by Mike Horner to accept the value change to \$181,000. Seconded by Joel Dahl. Carried.

The second property presented to the Board for review is parcel 22-010002-0 owned by Dave and Deb Wiesen. The current value is \$55,000 but due to a clerical error of missing land value, the proposed value is \$62,100. Buysse called roll call of the Council with all in favor of the change in value.

A motion by Joel Dahl to accept the value change to \$62,100. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried.

The final property discussed of the public hearing was the cabinet facility, recently purchased by Harry Roers and Dean Stanton. The building was appraised which resulted in a value decrease from \$2,089,000 to \$1,141,800.

A motion by Mike Horner to close the public hearing of the Local Board of Appeals & Equalization. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried at 7:49pm

A motion by Joel Dahl to open the public hearing on the Cottonwood Business Subsidy Policy. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried at 7:50pm.

Bliss presented the developed Business Subsidy Policy for Cottonwood and read through the requirements businesses would need to meet to qualify for city subsidy.

Council requested that the final document be sent to City Attorney, Mike Cable, for review before adoption takes place.

A motion by Joel Dahl to close the public hearing on the Cottonwood Business Subsidy Policy. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried at 8:05pm.

A motion by Shawn Myers to open the public hearing on the application submission to the Minnesota Investment Fund. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried at 8:06pm.

Bliss presented the application for the Minnesota Investment Fund on behalf of Legend Cabinetry. The application is for \$400,000 in a forgivable loan to be used for the purchase of machinery and equipment. Certain criteria must be met in order to apply for the Minnesota Investment Fund such as the creation of 84 jobs in two years and starting wage plus benefits at \$15.00.

A motion by Shawn Myers to close the public hearing on the application submission to the Minnesota Investment Fund. Seconded by Mike Horner. Carried at 8:15pm.

A motion by Shawn Myers to open the city council meeting. Seconded by Mike Horner. Carried at 8:16pm

Council reviewed Ordinance 2020-02 Amending Ordinance 2010-4 Relating to and Regulating the Use and Operation of ATVs, Mini-Trucks, and UTVs in the City of Cottonwood. The Amendment would allow the operation of these motorized vehicles on city streets before sunrise and after sunset if they are outfitted with proper headlights and taillights.

A motion by Joel Dahl to approve Ordinance 2020-02. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried.

Council reviewed Ordinance 2020-03 Amending Ordinance 2010-4 Relating to and Regulating the Use and Operation of Motorized Golf Cart and other Motorized Carts in the City of Cottonwood. The Amendment would allow the operation of these motorized vehicles on city streets before sunrise and after sunset if they are outfitted with proper headlights and taillights.

A motion by Shawn Myers to approve Ordinance 2020-03. Seconded by Mike Horner. Carried.

Council reviewed Resolution 2020_0421 Approving the Application to the Minnesota Investment Fund.

A motion by Joel Dahl to approve Resolution 2020_0421. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried.

Bliss updated the Council on FEMA NIMS training and the requirements of council, staff, and first responders to be adequately trained. Everyone would be required to certify in NIMS Incident Command Systems 100, 200, and 700 with department heads receiving additional training in 800. Also, the ambulance would be applying for another round of grants available from the Minnesota Department of Health that would apply to mitigation versus response.

Randy Fenger provided the Council with an update on the Public Works Department which included the installation of the variable frequency drive in Well #8 and the continuing work on Well #7. The council discussed the cleaning out and burning of the depot, Randy would be in contact with Dale on a timeframe when the burn will take place. Fenger also asked the Council for direction on the potential replacement of Well #7 pipe and pump, if Their Well gets on site and replacement needs done then would the Council want the funds spent.

A motion by Mike Horner to replace the pipe and pump at Well #7 if needed. Seconded by Shawn Myers. Carried.

Bliss did not have any other updates that did not pertain to COVID-19 or the Legend Cabinetry Project.

Council reviewed building permit 2020_02 for a 16 x 30 covered deck at 55 Northwood Drive. Impervious surface would total 18% with 6,412 square footage of structure on the 34,944 square foot lot.

A motion by Shawn Myers to approve Building Permit 2020_02. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried.

Council reviewed the application from Cottonwood Coop for the sale of tobacco and tobacco related products in Cottonwood.

A motion by Mike Horner to approve the Cottonwood Coop application for tobacco. Seconded by Joel Dahl. Carried.

Council discussed spring clean up day and the current delay due to COVID-19. Policies set by West Central Sanitation and the safest protection for the citizen have resulted in the delay of cleanup day. Several scenarios were discussed among West Central Sanitation, but a comfortable, safe plan could not be decided upon. Spring cleanup will be reviewed based on each announcement from Governor Walz.

Council discussed Lindsay Mobile Home Court, they requested an update on the sewage incident and the collection of junk. Bliss updated the Council that Southwest Health and Human Services was contacted on the sewage backing up from the manhole in Lindsay Mobile Home Court, the issue was resolved and Enviro Pump from Balaton did take care of the main issue so that it does not happen again. As for the ground contaminant, Southwest Health and Human Services and Minnesota Pollution Control will be requiring action from the owner of the Court. Southwest Health and Human Services and Minnesota Pollution Control also will be requiring action from the Court owner on the mass accumulation of junk, this was also reviewed by the City Attorney who requested that Council direct staff in a direction of action as the junk was in direct violation of Cottonwood's junk ordinance.

A motion by Shawn Myers directing Administrator Bliss to issue an ordinance violation and remedy letter to Rick Christians, owner of Lindsay Mobile Home Court. Seconded by Mike Horner. Carried.

Mayor Corey Moseng also coordinated with Council on his intent to communicate with Rick Christians on the removal of the junk immediately because of entrapment issues of children due to appliances still having doors.

Council reviewed a list of upcoming important dates.

A motion by Shawn Myers to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Shannon Geihl. Carried at 9:22 pm.

Teather Bliss, City Administrator

Corey Moseng, Mayor