

REGULAR MEETING
Litchfield City Council - City Council Room
February 19, 2019 - 6:30 PM

Mayor- O.R. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call: Present – Mayor Smith, Councilpersons – Don Bannick, Rick Siebert, Dan Efstathiou, Kevin Collins, Andy Reynolds and Jessica Bills.

Absent: None

Also Present – City Manager - Douglas Terry, Treasurer/Finance Director - Jill Barrett, Police Sgt. – Steve Fisher, DPW Superintendent – Tony Langhann, City Clerk - Susan Ballinger, Deputy Clerk - Lauren Skelly, HC Sheriff - Tim Parker, HCC - Julie Games, Abe Dane and Delores Sanger.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Siebert moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Motion carried.

Call to the Public- Mrs. Sanger stated that she had a water leak at her home of 1300 gallons and was asking the board to approve a sewer credit for the 1300 gallons since the water didn't go into the city sewer system.

Councilman Bannick moved to approve a sewer credit for an amount that is equal to 1300 gallons, supported by Councilman Collins. Motion carried.

Mrs. Sanger continued on with a discussion regarding the pool grant stating she felt the surveys went out too late and the new pool design is too small which would lower the pool capacity. Mrs. Sanger would like to have a diving board and feels there should be at least two guards on duty and that there needs to be more advertising of the pool. Mrs. Sanger stated that the bathrooms need to be updated and cleaned better and the pool rates should be lowered to \$1 for city residents and \$2 for outside visitors. She would like to see TIFA fund the money needed for the pool. She would like to see the pool open longer throughout the summer and she doesn't understand how the city spends \$45,000 on the pool each year and would like to see more details on that subject.

Mayor Smith stated that the City has already submitted the plan of the pool and diving boards were eliminated due to the fact they were broken and having to be replaced.

Manager Terry stated the city had an inventory done by a professional engineer and one of the problems with the existing pool is that the concrete is starting to separate which could cause small children's toes to be caught in the small cracks and the bolt work along the edges of the drain is starting to break off. The other problems are not what we can see is what we can't see and after having the pool inspected by the engineering firm there was concern that the pool was deteriorating from the outside in. Each year it's getting more difficult to pass the Department of Health Inspections. The pool takes a lot of chlorine and the heaters no longer work. Manager Terry feels the pool is an important asset to the community the problem is it doesn't last forever. Manager Terry went on to explain the reason behind the design of the new pool.

Hillsdale County Sheriff Tim Parker -Presentation - Sheriff Parker handout out information on the Hillsdale County Mileage request that will be on the May ballot. Sheriff Parker went on to inform the board on why he feels the mileage is needed and what that mileage will provide to Hillsdale County. Sheriff Parker asked the board for their support on the May ballot.

First Reading Ordinance 2019-01 – To Amend Section 1278.03 and to Add Section 1278.10 to Chapter 1278 of Title Six – Zoning, of Part Twelve. To Prohibit Marihuana Establishments within Various Zoning Districts within the city. Clerk Ballinger gave a first reading of Ordinance 2019-01, no action required at this time.

Discuss Brush and Leaf Pick Up 2019 Season Schedule – After some discussing amongst the board members. Councilman Bannick moved to approve the new 2019 Brush & Leaf Schedule with the addition of the fire burning proper procedures added to the new schedule, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Policy Adoption – Professional Services & Equipment Purchases – Councilman Siebert moved to adopt the new policy on Professional Services & Equipment Purchases as presented, support by Councilman Efstathiou. Motion Carried.

Re-Appointment of Tifa Board Member – Don Failing - Mayor Smith requested to the board that Don Failing be reappointed to the Tifa Board. Councilman Bannick moved to reappoint Don Failing to the Tifa Board, support by Councilman Efstathiou. Motion Carried.

Request Appointment to Board of Review – Edwin J. Smith- Mayor Smith requested to the board to appoint Ed Smith to the Board of Review. Councilman Bannick moved to appoint Ed Smith to the Board of Review, support by Councilman Reynolds. Motion Carried.

Bills for Approval – Councilman Bannick moved to approve the bills in the amount of \$35,778.68 and charge to the proper accounts, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Motion carried.

Police Report – Councilman Siebert moved to approve the police report as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilman Reynolds. Motion carried.

Public Works Report – Councilman Bannick moved to accept the public works report as presented and place on file, seconded by Councilwoman Bills. Motion carried.

Treasurers Update – Treasurer Barrett informed the board members that she is working on collecting personal property and IFT's that are due to the city preparing the tax roll to turn over to the county. Also, she is working in estimates for this year for the city streets.

City Manager's Update – Manager Terry informed the board of an administrative violation notice the city received regarding water asset management. After the Flint water crisis the State is now saying that a water asset management program is now a Federal requirement. Manager Terry stated he is upset with this because Litchfield runs one of the best water systems in the State of Michigan. Each year Treasurer Barrett fills out an F65 report that reviews the city's Enterprise Funds which are our water and sewer funds. Manager Terry spoke with DEQ today and we know what mains in the city that needs to be replaced. However, the city will comply. Manager Terry has created a request for a proposal to be sent out. When we receive those results, we will bring them to the board for your review. Manager Terry stated he is currently looking into some software that might help reduce the cost and do asset management ourselves. Manager Terry feels this is an unnecessary burden placed on municipalities by the State of Michigan, but the city will follow the criteria.

Correspondence –None

Committee Reports – None

Councilpersons Concerns – None

Adjournment – Councilman Bannick moved to adjourn at 7:25 p.m., seconded by Councilman Reynolds. Motion carried.