MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Crofton City Council

City Auditorium

Monday, September 13, 2021

6:45 pm

Mayor called meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Roll call taken. Council members present: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz,

Mayor notified public of the Notice of Open Meeting Act present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor introduced Jay Spearman from Piper Sandler & Company regarding refinancing the Sharon Street Bond. Mr. Spearman advised that the Sharon Street Bonds will be callable on February 14, 2022. The city has a 90-day call window to recall the bonds. Amortization chart was handed out which showed a regular amortization which save the city $151,549.99 by refinancing. A shortened amortization was also presented which would keep the payments close to what they are now and would save the city $171,765.27 by refinancing. The city would make their December payment then refinancing would come after that payment.

Evans made motion to suspend the rules of reading the resolution 9-13-21(1) three times and mayor read by title. Peitz seconded the motion. Voting aye: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz.

Murphy introduced Resolution No. 9-13-21(1) which calls for the bonds issued by the City of Crofton be called for redemption. Evans seconded. Voting aye: Evans, Peitz, Murphy, Roeder.

Ordinance 9-13-21(1) which provides for the issuance of general obligation various purpose of refunding the bonds. Evans made motion to adopt Ordinance 9-13-21(1) for purpose of refunding the bonds. Murphy seconded. Voting aye: Peitz, Roeder, Evans, and Murphy

Mr. Spearman also handed out information regarding an interim loan for the sewer plant.

Erin Filips reported on the pool. She has been working on a grant with Land & Water Conservation Grant. Grant is due Friday, September 17, 2021. The city matches the grant and the Guenther donation of $400,000 in the endowment fund will be used to match this grant if received. Mayor read the resolution. Evans made motion to adopt Resolution No. 9-13-21(2). Murphy seconded. Voting aye: Evans, Murphy, Peitz, and Roeder.

Mayor asked for approval of the minutes of the August 2, 2021 meeting. Murphy made motion to approve the minutes. Peitz seconded. Voting aye: Murphy, Peitz, Roeder, and Evans.

Mayor asked for approval of the special meeting minutes of August 23, 2021. Evans made motion to approve the August 23, 2021 special meeting minutes. Murphy seconded. Voting aye: Peitz, Roeder, Evans, and Murphy.

Claims were presented. Murphy made motion to approve the claims. Evans seconded. Voting aye: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz.

Pulley Museum is requesting a street closure on September 19, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. He is having a Car Club of classic cars coming to town that day. Murphy made motion to approve the street closure of the Pulley Museum. Evans seconded. Voting aye: Roeder, evans, Murphy, and Peitz.

Homecoming parade committee advised of the Homecoming Parade will be October 1 at 2 p.m. No motion was necessary – everyone was okay with the needed street closures for this event.

Well permit for Carl Schieffer was discussed. Peitz asked if where he would be digging would be within the guidelines of the city ordinance. Mike Chase was asked and he said it would within the guidelines. Murphy made motion to approve the well permit. Evans seconded. Voting aye: Murphy, Peitz, Roeder, and Evans.

Deed for the Firehall was discussed. Amy Eisenhauer is offering to prepare the deed that was never finished. Paul Schoenberner was at the meeting and gave his input. Apparently purchases were made from the city for the firehall but getting the deed completed had fallen through the cracks. Mr. Schoenberner had gone through the Crofton Journal in 1984 and found articles that had verified the purchase and notices were made. Peitz made motion to have Amy Eisenhauer do the paperwork to transfer the deed to the fire hall. Seconded by Murphy. Voting aye: Evans, Peitz, Murphy, and Roeder.

Discussion on Johnson Service Company to contract them to clean, camera, vac the sewer lines. This would give us a good idea as to the condition our sewer is in and where the need of repair should begin. Johnson contracts for 5 years and will come in and do 1/5 of the sewer per year. Murphy asked about Johnson and Mayor Lawhead said they are about the only ones that do this type of work. They are planning on opening an office in Norfolk. Peitz asked if coring contract had been signed. Mayor advised Steve Parr sending a new contract as the price had been changed. Peitz said he received an email that the price was $17,450.00. Mayor will get th new contract signed. Peitz made a motion to have Johnson Service come in and do our sewer line. Murphy seconded. Voting aye: Evans, Murphy, Peitz, and Roeder.

Jim Casey roofing was discussed again to repair the roof on the auditorium. Mayor Lawhead had said when he was here, he was concerned if we would have a hard winter the moisture may get into the cracks and possibly ruin the roof which would cost more for a completely new roof. The roof was budgeted for. We can check with Casey to see if he can do it this year yet. Murphy made motion to contact Casey to redo the roof. Seconded by Roeder. Voting aye: Roeder, Murphy. Voting nay: Peitz, Evans. Mayor split the tie and voted yes. Motion carried.

Peitz advised he has talked with Marty O’Connor, Knox County Commissioner and we can purchase 150 yards for $80.00 a yard for a total of $12,000.00

Recodification of our ordinance and resolution book was discussed. Mayor has been in contact with Kyle Peterson, an attorney that has worked in the legislature in recodification. He has a firm in Tilden and was interested in starting an office in Crofton. Attorney Stevens said at some point the ordinance and resolution book does need to be brought up-to-date. Murphy made a motion to get an estimate to see how much this would cost. Seconded by Evans. Voting aye: Roeder, Evans, Murphy, and Peitz.

Maintenance crew had made a ‘priority list’ back in April for the board to be informed as to what is needed as far as tires, equipment, etc. This was included in the council packet again this month. Peitz said this is where he got the higher figure of what a strip would cost. Mayor advised we will need a strip to fix holes, and pointed out that the strip included more material which includes the chip and seal as well. Much discussion as to building our own strip or have someone else to come in to fix streets. Murphy said for 21 years nothing has been done on his street. Mr. Stalbaum stated 7 years ago they had redone his street. Mayor said she can’t go back 7 years or more but since she has been here, they have used a strip in one year where before the maintenance men had to make the strip last 3 years. The strip is much more effective if used within a year. The city has bought a milling machine in hopes of having better equipment. We have invested in equipment that would make the job more efficient. Mr. Parr originally said anyone can always do their own streets cheaper than hiring the work done. We have shut the maintenance people down based on the fact that you don’t think that they know what they are doing. Mayor stated she is going to back them; they do a good job. If we get bids, we need to do apples-to-apples. Mayor advised she will prepare a list of what we could do with streets before the budget hearing. Mayor advised it would be nice to consider people who work on the streets and look to them for advice.

Peitz discussed the parts on the mower that the maintenance men had been waiting for 2 months to get fixed at Kaytons. Peitz had talked with Jerry Steffen about this matter. Steffen then ordered parts from Koletzy in Yankton and brought the part to Kaytons to put in the tractor. Discussion on this topic. Pat Hochstein did advise towards end of discussion that the part Steffen ordered could not be warranted by Kaytons because Mr. Peitz indicated it was a rebuilt or used part. The part Kayton ordered was shipped and should be here anytime. Mayor advised it would be a good idea to communicate with the office rather than a board member taking a project upon himself so this problem won’t occur again.

The Budget hearing meeting is set for Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. A discussion of a 4-day notice requirement led to a choice of the budget hearing on Sunday or Monday. Each member was asked individually and chose 6:30 p.m. Sunday. This is a public hearing for ctiizens to be informed and ask question.

Council went into closed session for negotiations on land of the sewer project. Murphy made motion to enter into closed session at 8:45. Seconded by Peitz. Voting aye: Roeder, Murphy, Evans, and Peitz.

Council came out of closed session at 9:00. Motion by Peitz to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Roeder. Voting aye: Peitz, Murphy, Roeder, and Evans.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Next council meeting will be October 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

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 Sharol Lawhead, Mayor

Actually paid on the preapproved bills: Payroll 19,369.22; Federal Payroll Tax 4,96268; Aflac 65.78; Colonial Life 339.38; Modern Woodman 829.49; Cedar Knox Rural Water 26,914.85; Cedar Knox Public Power 2,777.04; One Call Concepts 23.10; Sun Life 88.94; Leaf 69.00 EMC Insurance 4,996.07; Arts Garbage (Aug) 5,612.80; Arts Garbage (Sept.) 5,336.78; Great Plains 381.79; Black Hills 395.16; U S Celluar 227.76; Telebeep 45.78.

Claims Presented for Approval: C-Mart 544.63; Steffen Service Station 1,251.19; Kayton 123.73; Midwest Labs 872.91; West Hodson 9.52; Crofton Journal 434.31; First Ntl Bank 1,027.12; Peoples Groc 433.61; One Source 239.55;A & D Serv 5,666.00; Share Corp 3,280.47;Network computing Sol 170.00; Auto Parts of Ykt 76.58; Municipal Supp 1,581.76; USA Blue Book 50.30; Midwest Serv Sales 645.30; Nebr. Pub Health $500.00; Neb Muncipal Clerk Assoc 25.00; Dennis Schumacher 200.00; Grossenburg 232.57; Blackburn & Stevens 2,650.85; Core &Main 687.74; Pitzer Digital LLC 48.00; NE Nebr Economic Develop 780.00.