

BELGRADE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
December 21, 2015
7:00 PM

Mayor Russell Nelson called the meeting to order. Council Members in attendance were: Brad Cooper, Anne Koentopp, Ken Smith, Kristine Menicucci, and John Youngberg. Others in attendance were: City Manager Ted Barkley, City Attorney Rick Ramler, Finance Director Diane Eagleson, Jim Simon, Richard Tramp, Ed Roe and Michael Tucker.

Council Member Youngberg moved to excuse Council Member Criner. Council Member Menicucci seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE December 7, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING

Council Member Smith moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2015 Council meeting. Council Member Youngberg seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Nelson called 3 times for public comment, there being none, the public forum was closed.

REPORTS

Mayor Nelson had nothing to report.

City Attorney Ramler had nothing to report.

City Manager Barkley reported on the recent housing project sponsorship meeting in Helena, their request for tax credits and a CDBG Grant on the way to being funded. We are hoping for success to preserve affordable housing in Belgrade.

Barkley reported on the notice published in the local newspaper on the water quality and coliform Bac-t violation. He noted that the system had been already been sanitized with chlorine earlier in the week. We are continuing to monitor this issue carefully and flushing the system.

Barkley reported that Council Member John Youngberg's term officially ends on January 4th. He invited all to a reception in honor of John's many years of service to be held at 5:30 p.m. on January 4th in the council chambers. Barkley confirmed that a notice would also appear in the newspaper and be posted on the City webpage.

Barkley reported he will be out of the office from December 23rd through the 27th. Police Chief Clark will be available to fill in while the city manager is out of town.

Barkley reported meeting with the Prosecutors and Police Department last week in an effort to clarify goals in regard to prosecution. It was a good dialogue about each entity's role and goals. A follow-up will happen in a few months to maintain good communication.

Barkley reported that the annual Audit will be later this year due to scheduling and dealing with the transition from one Finance Director to another.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Consider Reappointment of City Court Judge Andrew Breuner for a Four Year Term

City Manager Barkley noted that Judge Breuner's current term will end on December 31, 2015. After reviewing the summary information, Barkley recommended that council reappoint Breuner to a 4 year term. Barkley noted that the employment contract would continue much the same with no substitutive changes.

ACTION: Council Member Youngberg moved to approve reappointment of City Court Judge Andrew Breuner for a Four Year Term beginning January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2019, and authorize the City Manager to enter into an employment contract with Mr. Breuner. Council Member Menicucci seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

Consider Request from the Belgrade School District to install a Walking Path at the Belgrade Youth Sports Complex

City Manager Barkley reviewed the plans and route for the proposed walking path. This request came from the School District. The City is not being asked to participate financially as the School is looking to obtain grant funds for this purpose.

Richard Tramp, with the Belgrade School District, stated the project specifications were produced by working with Morrison Maierle engineering group. He noted the gravel base was planned with future options for paving. He stated the funding has not been secured as they wanted approval first. It will be approximately 1 mile in length and weed control will be part of the maintenance plan. Cleaning up after dogs will be an ongoing issue as well. Fencing has also been brought up, but there is no funding for fence right now. The trail does not cross any of the ditches. Estimated cost is \$15,000 for gravel, \$6000 for excavation and disposal, \$5000 for road mix. Richard is looking to see if any materials might be donated. Richard also expressed his desire to see a sign being installed showing this park's name "Menicucci Park" for future discussion.

ACTION: Council Member Koentopp moved to approve the request by the School District to install a walking path at the Belgrade Youth Sports Complex. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

Discuss and Appoint Deputy Mayor for Calendar Year 2016

City Manager Barkley noted the newly appointed Deputy Mayor for 2016 would be sworn in at the January 4th meeting.

ACTION: Council Member Koentopp moved to appoint Council Member Criner as Deputy Mayor for Calendar Year 2016. Council Member Menicucci seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

Discuss Options for Montana Shakespeare in the Parks performance – Summer 2016

City Manager Barkley reviewed the sponsorship by the City for the last 2 years. General discussion followed regarding choices for the summer performance of 2016 and expressed their interest in requesting the “Comedy of Errors” performance, with late July as the preferred time frame.

ACTION: Council Member Youngberg moved to approve sponsorship of the 2016 Montana Shakespeare in the Parks (MSIP) summer performance of “Comedy of Errors” and authorize the City Manager to sign a Letter of Agreement with said group. Council Member Menicucci seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Warrants Payable for November 2015

ACTION: Council Member Cooper moved to approve Warrants Payable for November 2015. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

Council Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2016

ACTION: Council Member Menicucci moved to approve the Council Meeting Schedule for Calendar year 2016. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried unanimously.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Council Member Cooper commented on the amount of snow piled up on the Oregon Street railroad crossing. He asked if the City Public Works crew could grade the snow down to a more manageable level.

Council Member Koentopp reported attending the Fire Board meeting for December. She reported that the Fire Chief had met with Airport Director Sprenger and agreed on a 3 acre parcel for the future fire hall construction. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has given support for use of the land and utilities are within a reasonable distance. Koentopp also noted

this property use would include a 40 year lease with the option to renew. The plan was to take advantage of a Mutual Interest Exchange of Services instead of having to purchase the land. An Inter-local Agreement will be drafted and brought before Council.

Barkley confirmed that considerations will include formation of a 2nd engine company in the near future. Many needs will have to be worked through.

Koentopp also reported that the Central Valley Fire District has reviewed another batch of applicants for the Fire Marshall. This is the 4th attempt to fill this position in the past 2 years. They may just have to redesign the position. The Fire Chief is going to training in the east and may be able to meet some more potential candidates at the training. They noted having trouble attracting candidates. Proposed compensation is part of the issue. Koentopp reported that the CVFD was able to send 3 firefighters to Colorado for a 16 week training program and they will be sending 3 more in the future.

Council Member Smith wanted to wish everyone a merry and joyous Christmas.

Council Member Menicucci thanked John Youngberg for his years of service to the community and to her family personally.

Council Member Youngberg had nothing to report.

Mayor Nelson asked if any updates from Opticom had been received in regard to the landscaping issues by Town Pump along east Main Street. Barkley stated that he had not been contacted by Opticom as of this date.

ADJOURN

Council Member Youngberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m.



Russell C. Nelson, Mayor



Susan Caldwell, City Clerk