

LAKEFIELD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 19, 2019

ADOPTED

CALL THE COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER at 7:00 p.m.

Council Present: Brian Rossow, Nathan Hall, Bruce Bakalyar, Andrea Monson, Brent Pavelko

Council Absent:

Others Present: Andrew Konechne-Police, Kelly Rasche-Clerk, Lance Frerichs-Street Foreman, Laura DeKok-Media, Rylie Cother, Becky Cother, Vanessa Cother, Kelly Konechne, Lori Kolander, Mike Forde, Dennis Brown, Kris Green, Nathan Schadt

Agenda Approval – Motion to approve the presented agenda made by **Bakalyar/Hall**, all yes, motion carried.

Minutes Approval – Motion to approve the minutes of August 5, 2019, meetings made by **Pavelko/Hall**, all yes, motion carried.

Accounts Payable – Motion to approve the payments and the investment and transfer activity as presented, in the amount of **\$155,323.97** made by **Monson/Bakalyar**, all yes, motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

1. **Street** – Paint striping is in. Department has started painting on Main Street. The storm drain intakes are being repaired. The company has repaired; city will install 4” of asphalt on the Hwy 86 ones to meet MNDOT requirements.

SCHEDULED/UNSCHEDULED GUESTS

Scheduled

Unscheduled

1. **Rylie Cother – Basketball Court in Kids Corner (West) City Park** – She has collected more than 80 signatures on a request to install a basketball court. The court would serve the older kids of the area. The initial installation is a cost but very little maintenance after that. The council discussed the possibilities. The council has been looking for ways to improve that park, the idea is well received. Council directed staff to research the costs of the installation of a basketball court.
2. **Dennis Brown** – commented on the subject of dogs, which was discussed at a previous council meeting. Feels dogs should be caged or chained at all times. Bicycles are not following street rules, ignoring stop signs, both adults and kids. Requests a special insert in the utility billings to communicate this with residents.
 - a. **Dogs:** Mayor Rossow shared additional information about the discussion on the dogs of running at large. Ordinances are on the books to address the issues
 - b. **Bicycles:** Mayor Rossow shared information about the efforts. There was information on the current utility bills.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. ~~Ambulance~~ – removed from the agenda for a later meeting
 - a. ~~WEX gas card program for ambulance department~~
 - b. ~~4G modem update required~~

2. **Overlay basketball and tennis courts at North Park consideration** – Street Foreman Frerichs shared information about the price quote received. The quote was from Kruse Pavement Solutions. The quote is \$9,900 for the north section and \$9,315 for the south section. The north portion is in worse condition of the two. Council asked staff to research the option of a rubber overlay for the area. This will be brought back to the council for future consideration. No action taken.
3. **October Domestic Violence Month** ~ Purple Ribbons on Main Street light poles request – Motion to approve the request, on the condition the ribbons are removed after the event made by Monson/Hall, all yes, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Green Earth Recycling Information** – Mayor Rossow shared with the council concerns he has heard about the condition of the Green Earth Recycling property. This is a “good” problem; shows the business is successful. The business seems to have expanded beyond E-Waste and Appliance Recycling. The property is crowded. Green Earth has outgrown the current location. An additional building has been purchased, but that is filling up quickly. They are receiving E-Waste by the semi load. They have farm clean ups and demolition to be done. They do cleanouts (tax forfeitures) for Jackson County. They did the Jackson County E-Waste and Appliance clean out. Green Earth is talking with Hussong Mfg, considering the building next to the gallery (on Main Street). A fence is a possibility, but the street will be under construction in 2020 and the fence will be a hindrance to the street project.
 Mayor Rossow wants to see the business continue to succeed, but wants to work with Green Earth to find options.
 Green Earth (GE): They are extremely busy; they are in need of a larger staging area. The electronics are collected this time of year and tearing down happens in the winter season.
 Councilor Pavelko: What is the long term plan for expansion?
 Rossow: If a piece of property became available, would you be open to relocation?
 GE: Yes, open to the idea of relocation.
 Rossow: Council not looking for anything specific at this meeting just wants to keep open dialog. Help GE grow business and be responsible to the city whole.
 GE: Asked the street foreman to look at the pothole on the street at their driveway.

OLD BUSINESS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. **Other Board and Committee Reports**
 - a. **Lakefield Public Utilities** – Mayor Rossow shared with the council that LPU has approved a contract with Missouri River Energy Service (MRES) to outsource employees. The current linemen have the opportunity to be hired with MRES, thru their hiring process. The office manager position has been eliminated, as of August 30, 2019. Her duties will be handled thru MRES and/or absorbed by existing city hall staff.
 - b. **Southwest Broadband** – SMBS has increased their program of funding the first \$500 of a new property drop to funding the first \$600.
2. **School Information as available**
 - a. **November Referendum Vote** – The JCC School Board has approved going to a vote on November 5th for the referendum, based on the results of the recent survey. Voting locations will be at all polling sites in the JCC district. Lakefield residents will vote at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Voting will be 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Rasche has begun recruitment of election judges for the day to assist the school. The council discussed how the city/council should/could support a yes vote. Activation of the Lakefield school

committee, organized several months ago was supported by the council. The council wants to promote “Get Out to Vote”.

- 3. Greater MN Business Development Public Infrastructure Program (BDPI)** – Rasche is assembling a grant application to relocate electrical utilities in the industrial park for the expansion of Hussong Manufacturing (Kozy Heat). The power lines will be moved to the North and South sides of the road and to the West to the outer edge of city limits. The grant is a matching grant of approximately \$250,000. The city will need to provide documentation proving the funds are available for the project. The needed documents shall be provided at the September 9, 2019, council meeting for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. 2020 Budget Workshop Monday, August 26, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall.**
- 2. Next council meeting Monday, September 9, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall.**

Motion to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. made by **Bakalyar/Pavelko**, all yes, motion carried.

Attest:

Kelly R. Rasche, Clerk

Brian Rossow, Mayor