

June 3, 2013

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Arendt at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: John Franzen, Paul Wanless, Carolyn Corbin, Randy Schissel, Gary Rustad, and Rachel Vagts.

Motion by Schissel, second by Rustad to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Franzen, to approve items on the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the May 20, 2013 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Resolution 2564 approving the FY14 amended lease agreement with Winneshiek Co. for shared dispatching services
- d. Short Street Improvements PPE #10 \$35,749.48
- e. PPE #4 Decorah Alley Improvements – Division II \$27,011.70

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the time and place for a public hearing on vacation of right-of-way on Grove St. the hearing was opened. No public comment. The hearing was closed.

Motion by Schissel, second by Vagts, to table action on Resolution 2565 approving conveyance of right-of-way on Grove St. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Appointment to the 2nd Ward Council seat was introduced. Mayor Arendt explained each candidate will be given the opportunity to speak prior to the vote. Each Councilperson will cast a paper ballot indicating the candidate for which they are voting and the members' signature. City Manager Bird will read the votes with City Clerk, Tr. Hemesath recording the roll.

Dan Voss, Dan Bellrichard and Jody Niess each gave a brief, personal background and reasons why they desire to serve on the Council.

Voting for Dan Bellrichard – Vagts

Voting for Jody Niess – Franzen, Schissel, Rustad, Wanless, Corbin

Motion by Corbin, second by Vagts to accept the results of the paper ballot appointing Jody Niess as 2nd Ward Councilperson. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Hemesath administered the Oath of Office to Ms Niess, who then took her place at the Council table.

Consideration of audit proposals was opened for discussion. Proposals for a cash basis audit and a modified accrual audit were received. Staff recommended serious consideration be given to moving to a cash basis audit rather than the modified accrual as has been done for a considerable number of years. The modified accrual audit was implemented in the hopes of receiving a more favorable bond rating. Our bonds have not been rated in many years nor has there been any discussion on having future bond issues rated. Moreover, financial advisors have advised a modified accrual audit does not have an impact on bond ratings.

Staff requested the Council take action on approving Hacker, Nelson as the approved auditing firm with the type of audit to be discussed and determined at a later date.

Motion by Wanless, second by Schissel, to approve Hacker, Nelson as the auditing firm for FY'13, FY'14 and FY'15. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vagts, second by Rustad, to approve an engineering services agreement with WHKS for the Hwy 9 Utility Project. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned on motion.


Wanda Hemesath, MMC
City Clerk, Tr.