

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OF THE ZIMMERMAN CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Zimmerman City Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. at City Hall by Mayor Dave Earenfight, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Earenfight, Council Members Brisbin, Merwin and Michels. Member Mathison was excused absent. Also present were Administrator Piasecki, Clerk/Treasurer Tillmann and Public Works Director Horvath.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Brisbin/Merwin unanimous to approve the agenda as presented.

OPEN FORUM

There was no one present to address the Council during Open Forum.

ORDER OF DISCUSSION

Brenteson Construction

At the December 1 meeting Council heard a request from Linden Corporation to provide financial assistance for work completed by Brenteson Construction to disconnect the irrigation system at South Side Villas from the municipal water supply. Linden has installed a well for irrigation and the City required the removal of a water line to prevent contamination of the city water supply with untreated well water.

Linden has requested the City pay Brenteson for the disconnect and Linden will reimburse the City in monthly payments. Attorney Mattick believes there is rationale for the City to pay the invoice since the removal of the water line was required to protect the City water supply. Staff was directed to place the item on the December 15, 2014 consent agenda for approval.

Public Works Director Position

Discussion was held regarding the appointment to Public Works Director upon the retirement of Dave Horvath on December 31, 2014. Administrator Piasecki reported that he has discussed the position and options for replacement with Horvath. Both agree it would be appropriate to promote Dave Johnson, current Public Works Operations Coordinator, to fill the position. Per the City's Personnel policy, internal promotion is an acceptable avenue for filling a City vacancy. Johnson has 22 years of experience with the City, is familiar with City staff, consultants and operations. He holds a "B" license in both water and sewer plant operation from the MN Department of Health and MPCA. Piasecki has also discussed the position with Johnson and he would welcome the opportunity to step into the position.

Considering Johnson's years of service, loss of overtime and compensatory time due to the PWD being a salaried position and increased duties and responsibilities, staff recommends Johnson's placement be at 7-4 on the approved salary schedule. Staff was directed to place the item on the December 15, 2014 agenda for approval.

2014 General Fund Budget and Levy Review

Council engaged in extensive discussion about the proposed 2015 budget, including employee wages, adding an additional staff person in the Public Works Department and budgeting for health insurance. No changes have been made to the budget since the preliminary budget was adopted in September. Council requested the Audit Services (101-41540-460) budget be reduced to reflect the new contract price for 2015 audit services.

Tillmann reported that the final budget and levy must be adopted on December 15 for certification to Sherburne County by the State imposed deadline.

Upcoming Events

- December 20 – Passing the Bread Food Distribution – 8 – 10 a.m. at the Public Safety Building.
- December 24 – City offices will close at Noon for the Christmas Eve Holiday
- December 25 – City offices will be closed for the Christmas Holiday
- January 1, 2015 – City offices will be closed for the New Year’s Holiday

Before adjourning, Mayor Earenfight asked for a moment of silence in honor of US military personnel and families.

Michels/Brisbin unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Approved this 15th day of December, 2014.

s/s Kary Tillmann, City Clerk/Treasurer

APPROVED 12/15/2014