

The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Hamm, O'Brien, T Schmidt, Lynn, Oestreich, Hederer and Kaiser. Thieme arrived at 6:40 P.M. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Connie Gurtner, DPW Harland Higley Jr, Mike Voss from MSA and citizens.

**Agenda** was posted by the clerk. The agenda will stand as the order of the meeting.

**Minutes** of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup> council meetings were pre-read and reviewed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by O'Brien to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Financial Statement and Bills** were discussed. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Lynn to approve the bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund \$70,131.59; Water Department \$202,580.36; Sewer Department \$20,289.74; TIF Fund \$119,743.75; RLF \$7,071.30; Net payroll \$16,960.73. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission** met on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Under Ride Along Policy, two policies were presented. Anders compiled one policy for review from other municipalities and the second policy for review was from Lexipol. It was suggested for the commission to review these policies and to have further discussion at the December meeting. It was stated that all new policies will go into effect at one time, not in segments. Lexipol has suggested not working from two policy books; therefore, the department will continue utilizing the existing policies until the new policies are ready. Chief Bauer stated there will be many policies to review and he will hand deliver policies to the Commission as they become available.

Under 2016 Health Insurance Renewal, Chief Bauer informed the Commission that the 2016 premium increased 4.65%. It was stated that the 2016 budget includes an 8% projected increase. The 2016 health insurance coverage and deductibles remain unchanged. The commission approved the 2016 Health Insurance renewal at a 4.65% increase.

Under 2016 Dental Insurance Renewal, Chief Bauer informed the Commission that the 2016 premium had a 0% increase. The policy benefits and price will remain unchanged in 2016. The commission approved the 2016 Dental Insurance renewal at a 0% increase.

The Chief's Report was presented by Chief Bauer. Officer Bradner and Officer Wagner attended an Interview and Interrogation training this last month. Officer

Schreiber will be attending the "Field Training Officer" school for the Department; he will be responsible for training all new Officers for the Department. The Police Secretary is out on medical leave until November 23, 2015. Chief Bauer stated that there has been excellent team work between both Marathon County and Clark County in handling various situations. New tires will be put on the Dodge Charger and there were no other reported issues with the vehicles. Chief Bauer stated that the biannual pharmaceutical drug collection was a success. It was stated that the 12 hour shift memorandum was approved by the Abbotsford City Council and will be presented for approval in December at Colby.

Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by T Schmidt to approve the memorandum of agreement regarding 12 hour shifts. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Area Fire Department** met on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Nancy O'Brien distributed a first draft of the Inter-government agreement for the area fire department. She also said that the group is asking for the municipalities to contribute \$250 to a fund to cover costs for secretary and postage, etc. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Kaiser to approve the contribution of \$250 for start up money to the area fire departments. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**City Planning Committee** met on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Library Funding Options with SEH and MSA: Brad Hentschel from SEH started out by presenting information regarding CDBG. He stated that Rural Development also has money, but is for low income communities and the City of Colby would not be an ideal candidate. He reviewed different projects that they helped get block grants to construct. The city is not community wide eligible for funding so we would be required to do a survey of the benefited area to meet the requirement of CDBG. Grant specifics: Max is \$500,000, municipal match is 50% and can be other sources and 6-24 months is construction time. SEH has a three step contract for this process; Step 1 - LMI survey, if the results are not positive , they would stop process; Step 2 - Completed survey and write the grant, but grant not awarded; Step 3 - Administration of the grant. Mike Voss and Jeff Thelen from MSA also presented information about potential CDBG funding. Jeff Thelen stated that Brad from SEH did cover a lot of the CDBG grant information. Jeff stated that the combined LMI of the combined municipalities is 42% and that would require for us to do a survey in order to qualify. He also had a suggestion to apply for CDBG grant funding for other projects and would then free up General Fund money for Library Construction. How far the project needs to be ready was discussed. The city would have to have the matching funds ready to construct when we do the application for the grant.

Lease of Colby Property to Colby Pullers Club: Todd Schmidt suggested that the committee and the members of the club discuss what we want to be included in

the lease before we start working on a draft document. Scott Oestreich was asked what they want in the lease. He stated that the group wants to do a scholarship and improvements to the grounds. He said that the group is interested in leasing the property for the whole year. Todd Schmidt asked how they felt about the city having a clause asking for city approval before the property is subleased. Oestreich agreed to that suggestion. The chamber has no interest in the property for chamber events. Clerk Gurtner asked that the electric bill stay in the name of the city to insure payment. Todd Schmidt also asked the pullers if they are willing to maintain the property. Oestreich agreed to that. Todd Schmidt also reviewed some of the terms of the current lease example as far as insurance and termination timelines. Todd Schmidt asked the pullers to be more transparent to the city with their financial information to be sure that we are charging them correctly and that it coincides with their future development plans.

Speed Limit on Highway 13 South: The speed limit southbound from PCA loading dock to Smith Brothers is 40 miles an hour and northbound goes down to 40 miles per hour before Smith Brothers and turns to 30 miles an hour in front of A Perfect 10. The council discussed if they felt that this was slow. The committee feels that the speed limits are justified but maybe need to be enforced.

**Mayor Schmidt:** Mayor Schmidt reported on the meeting of the United Communities of Clark County.

Mayor Schmidt appointed Joanne Bartnik, Lee Kaschinska and Julie Johnson as Chief Inspectors and Yvonne Ruppert, Duane Webb, Karen Winkler, Janet Gurtner, Charlotte Haines, Sharon Rachu, Doreen Newman, Donald Newman and Bev Fecker as Election Workers. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to approve these appointments. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Mayor Schmidt reported that the Board of Review met this evening.

**Clerk Gurtner:** She also reported the Paula Ruesch has filed her resignation with the AbbyColby Crossings Chamber of Commerce.

**DPW Harland Higley:** The following building permits were issued: Hank Blazel, 127 S 1<sup>st</sup> Street, fence; Kim and Chad Steen, 106 S 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, bathroom, exterior doors.

DPW Higley reported on the precipitation and flows for November 2015 at the STP. He also reported on the pumpage of water for November 2015.

The city has a water leak and the water department is looking for the leak somewhere in the city.

**Engineer Mike Voss:** Voss reported that MSA contacted PSC to find out what context they would like to see in the Well #14 and Well #15 reporting to satisfy

them. MSA had done a report and they were looking for more information regarding the water system capacity.

**MSA Contract to Write Water System Capacity Report for PSC:** The city is required to provide the PSC with a Water System Capacity Report. MSA quoted the services to do this report at an estimate of \$2,400. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Hamm to approve the contract with MSA for \$2,400. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Cross Connection Contract:** The city has a quote from HydroCorp Inc for 40 Non-Residential cross connection inspections at a cost of \$5,280. This is a two year program and would be billed at \$220/per month. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by O'Brien to approve the contract. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Trailblazers Snowmobile Club Request to Allow ATVs on Snowmobile Trails:** The Colby Trailblazers Snowmobile Club requested the city to allow ATVs on the snowmobile trails in the city. Motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by Thieme to allow ATV on the snowmobile trails when temperatures are below 28 degrees. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**MPIC Quote for Property Insurance:** Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Kaiser to approve the building/property and equipment insurance policy with Municipal Property Insurance Company at a premium of \$19,012 for 2016. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Security Health Plan Renewal:** The rate for 2016 Security Health Plan increase by 4.64% to \$10,333.71. Motion was made Hederer, seconded by Kaiser to approve the Security Health Plan renewal. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Employee Christmas Gifts:** Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Hamm to give the employees a \$25 Abbotsford Colby Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificate. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Committee meetings for December:** Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on December 14, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. at the Police Department. City Planning Committee will meet on January 11, 2016 at 7:15 P.M. Personnel/Labor Relations Committee will meet on December 7, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.

**Closed Session:** Motion was made by Lynn, seconded by Hamm to go into closed session per State Statute 19.85(1)(e) and (g) for the purpose of negotiating over the investing of public funds which for bargaining reasons requires a closed session and conferring with legal counsel who is rendering advise with respect to litigation the city may become involved in including discussions with Cemetery Association over expenses of cemetery operations.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Thieme, Lynn, Oestreich, Hederer, Kaiser, Hamm, O'Brien, T Schmidt. Noes – none. Motion carried.

**Adjourn in closed session:** Motion was made by Lynn, seconded by Oestreich to adjourn at 8:05 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_  
Connie Gurtner, Clerk