

July 2, 2018

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Borowski at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Randy Schissel, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Ross Hadley, Kirk Johnson, Johanna Bergan, Dan Bellrichard.

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

Motion by Bergan, second by Hadley, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

- a. Minutes of the June 18, 2018 meeting
- b. Claims
- c. Renewal Class E Liquor License for Casey's General Store, College Drive., including Class B Wine, Class C Beer and Sunday Sales privileges
- d. Consider Resolution 2891 approving renewal lease agreement with Winneshiek County for dispatching services
- e. **CO #2** Dry Run Trail Culvert Crossing of Hwy 52 – \$21,876.50
- f. Consider a letter of support for a Hwy 150 corridor improvement study and authorizing the Mayor to sign

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

This being the date and time for a public hearing on the plans/specs and form of contract for the Airport Hangar Improvement Project-Gundersen Hangar, the hearing was opened.

Councilpersons Schissel and Bellrichard expressed concern regarding the engineering costs and their understanding the project was intended to be a cost neutral for the city and questioned, if the City doesn't move forward, will Gundersen reimburse the City for engineering to date.

City Manager Bird explained it is intended that all costs be covered except for \$300,000 in financing fees which would be paid over 20 years.

Councilperson Carlson expressed his opinion that this is a quality of life issue.

City Manager Bird explained it is unknown exactly how much cost will need to be incurred by the city, until the bids are received.

Motion by Hadley, second by Luse, to adopt Resolution 2890 approving the plans/specs and form of contract for the Airport Hangar Improvement Project – Gundersen Hangar. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Bellrichard, second by Carlson, to adopt Resolution 2892 approving a 30-day temporary use permit to Luther College for delivery trucks on North St. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Request for funding from the Telecommunications Utility Board of Trustees for a business plan and community survey was opened for discussion.

Councilperson Schissel stated the Board commissioned a previous feasibility study, which the city helped fund and selected the consultant. When the unbiased opinion of the study stated this wasn't feasible, they requested the consultant change the numbers to reflect a more positive outcome. He has had a conversation with a bonding consultant who told him, without the major accounts such as county, Luther, school or hospital, this wasn't feasible. Additionally, for-profit providers have told him the risk does not outweigh the results. He is hesitant to spend another \$20,000 under the circumstances.

Jarod Walter, Utility Board Member, stated it may not be viable for private companies but the city just needs to break even.

Councilperson Luse stated he remembered a bond consultant saying he felt there would be a larger take rate than reflected in the study based on the take rate in other communities.

Councilpersons Bergan, Hadley and Carlson felt another community survey is warranted and worth the investment.

City Manager Bird reminded the council this would be an unbudgeted expenditure.

Motion by Luse, second by Carlson, to approve \$20,000 for a business plan and community survey. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Luse, Carlson, Bergan, Hadley, Bellrichard, Johnson. Voting nay: Schissel.

Motion by Johnson, second by Schissel, to approve the following Mayor re-appointments to the Historic Preservation Commission:

Diane Scholl  
Hayley Jackson  
Lois Humpal

Meeting adjourned on motion.

  
Wanda Hemesath, MMC  
City Clerk, Tr.