

City of Ottertail
February 11, 2020
Special Meeting –Work Session– City Hall
5:15 PM

Council present: Mayor Myron Lueders, Ron Grobeck, Mike Windey and Judah Burlingame

Absent: Jill Carlson.

Staff present: City Clerk/Treas. Elaine Hanson; Deputy Clerk Amanda Thorson; Coordinator Loren Hawes.

Others present were Traci Ryan, Economic Development; Bob Schlieman, Engineering; Mikel Olson, Fergus Falls/OT County HRA; Brad Stevens, Gen. Mgr. Thumper Pond.

After duly calling for and posting of a meeting Mayor Lueders opened the special meeting/work session at 5:15 p.m. All said the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Kari's Law: Staff reported the city's phone system is not in compliance with the new federal law, which requires multi line phone systems to dial out 911 without an access number. Arvig Communications did an assessment and provided options including a managed system or buying outright some of the features. After discussion, a motion was made by Burlingame and second by Grobeck to go with the purchase plan for city hall only which includes one-time cost of \$1321. All voted in favor, carried.
2. 112 West Avenue: Original discussion ultimately was to discuss how the City would want to go about getting the lot cleaned up and how to market the lot and to whom. Grobeck brought information regarding daycare and suggested the City use the lot to build a home to lease to a daycare provider. Mikel Olson shared the experience of the HRA with the project that was started in New York Mills which did not turn out as expected. Further discussion resulted in organizing a community meeting to see who would take this on, similar to the Battle Lake model of an organized 501c3 working toward a goal to have daycare in the City. Final discussion brought in Arvilla lots and what the city could do to market and promote the lots for single family homes. Ryan and Hanson will provide some options to the Council perhaps at another work session.
3. Eagles Trail infrastructure: Council were reminded that some infrastructure costs were left on the table when purchase was made by the City and Eagles Trail was completed for the multi-unit townhomes. Brad Stevens reviewed the circumstances from the resorts point of view. Thumper Pond has received an offer on the First Right of Refusal property west of Fairway View Addition. The City now must exercise its option to meet the offer of a third party or risk losing the \$42,277 in infrastructure costs in front of the RFOR property. The RFOR is 3.2 acres. The City could purchase and add the infrastructure costs and still have approximately the same potential in sales as the other lots to the east. After discussion, Council felt this would make the most sense to purchase the remaining property, attach the assessment and then sell. Stevens will put together a purchase agreement in the amount of the offer of the third party and provide it at the next regular meeting for action. Hanson also reported that Lot 4 closing should take place in next couple weeks and ironically the purchaser is who made the offer to Thumper Pond Resort.
4. Happy Acres: Hanson reported that an email was received from Stephan Sweere inquiring whether the City would be interested in purchasing the remaining lots in the development less the two that he intends to keep. A price of \$33,000 negotiable was given. Under advisement of Ryan, Hanson should let Sweere know that the City is interested, but not at the maximum price and to give Ryan some time to see if there would be some assistance from the Otter Tail County CDA for re-platting costs. A discussion continued on whether this area would be a good area for the HRA to implement at CLT (Community Land Trust), but mostly acknowledging that should the City acquire the property, they would have more say in what the property could be used for and how developed.
5. Tri-City Home Pride Contest: Hanson reported on the contest which included one entry for a curb appeal project. Response to the contest was not as expected, but sometimes these things take time. Hanson asked the Council if they would still consider this contest for another year and find a

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different way to find sponsors. Battle Lake will no longer take part, Henning will try it again. Consensus of the Council was to not do it again.

6. Amend Resolution 2020-07 Appointing Election Judges to allow for additional judges for the upcoming Presidential Nominating Primary. Motion by Grobeck and second by Burlingame to adopt the resolution. Carried.

With no other business to discuss, the Council adjourned at 6:35 p.m. with a motion by Windey and second by Burlingame. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

s/s _____
Elaine Hanson, MCMC
Clerk-Administrator

s/s _____
Myron J. Lueders, Mayor