Brainerd, MN
December 21, 2020

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Brainerd City Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President Johnson.

Upon roll call, the following members were noted as present: Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson. Mayor Badeaux was also noted as present.

Due to the meetings being conducted remotely, all motions will be made by roll call vote for accuracy.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN BEVANS AND PRITSCHET TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN LAMBERT AND T. ERICKSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

A. Approval of Bills - Approved

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 7, 2020, the Minutes of the Police Chief Interview Meeting Held on December 10, 2020 and the Minutes of the Budget Public Hearing held on December 14, 2020 - Approved

C. Approval of Licenses - Approved

Contractor Licenses – 90
Garbage Hauler Licenses – 4 Renewals
Tobacco Licenses – 20 Renewals
Taxicab Licenses – 1 Renewal
Second Hand Auto Licenses – 2 Renewals
Second Hand Good Licenses – 1 Renewal

Contingent Upon Fire Department Inspection
Taxicab Licenses – 1 Renewal
Second Hand Auto Licenses – 6 Renewals
Second Hand Goods License – 1 Renewal
Pawnbrokers Licenses – 2 Renewals

D. Department Activity Reports - Approved

1. Police Chief
2. Finance Director

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Presentations

Mayor Badeaux announced all Health Care Workers of Crow Wing County and their families have been nominated to receive the Community Member of the Month award for December. Council Member Pritschet stated those in our healthcare system and their families are very appreciated in our community and the City would like to present them as Community Members of the Month.

Mayor Badeaux presented Tower Awards to the two departing Council Members, Jan Lambert and Wayne Erickson and thanked them for their service to the City of Brainerd. Council Members Lambert and Erickson thanked everyone for the award and were honored to be receiving them.

Council Member Stunek welcomed the Executive Director of Brainerd Community Action, Dave Badeaux and President, Kim Rollins who gave a brief update of the 2021 budget and financial statement. They thanked the Council for the support and are looking forward to future events.

Council Committee Reports

Safety & Public Works Committee Report

Improvement 17-08 – Garfield Safe Routes to School – Final Pay Application - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN BEVANS AND LAMBERT TO ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF THE FINAL PAY APPLICATION TO CONCRETE IDEA INC. IN THE FINAL PROJECT AMOUNT OF $1,137,123 ($72,601 THIS ESTIMATE).

Committee Chair Bevans stated this project came in at 1.6% under budget with 90% of the costs being paid by state and federal funds.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Personnel and Finance Committee Report

Ratify Community Service Officer (CSO) Hiring - Approved

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN PRITSCHET AND T. ERICKSON TO RATIFY THE HIRING OF ANDREW LOUKS FOR THE POSITION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER (CSO), EFFECTIVE JANUARY 4, 2021 AT THE STARTING WAGE OF $11.67/HOUR.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Public Hearing and Resolution – SP 1814-08 – S 6th Street Reconstruction FY2022 – Consideration of MnDOT Municipal Consent – Adopted Resolution No. 56:20

City Engineer Sandy explained the details of the MnDOT project from Joseph Street to Greenwood Street. He indicated Mr. Luke Wehseler, project manager for MnDOT was present for the meeting and available to answer questions.

The Chair opened the public hearing at 7:52 p.m.

The Chair recognized Mr. Jeremy Doyle, 147 Birchridge Drive who asked about the ability to turn left off Birchridge Drive and Paul Street once the median is installed. It was determined the median being installed will not affect the ability to turn left.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 7:56 p.m.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN PRITSCHET AND T. ERICKSON TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION THAT APPROVES THE FINAL LAYOUT AS PRESENTED FOR THE S 6TH STREET RECONSTRUCTION FROM JOSEPH STREET TO GREENWOOD STREET

RESOLUTION NO. 56:20

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Final Reading – Proposed Ordinance 1513 – An Ordinance Amending the Brainerd City Charter – City Administrator Bergman Recommends to Dispense with the Actual Reading - Approved

The Chair opened the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

No one came forward.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN BEVANS AND STUNEK TO HOLD AND DISPENSE WITH THE FINAL READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 1513 AMENDING THE BRAINERD CITY CHARTER AS PRESENTED.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN LAMBERT AND T. ERICKSON TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1513 AMENDING THE BRAINERD CITY CHARTER AS PRESENTED.

ORDINANCE NO. 1513

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

2021 Levy and Budget – Adopted Resolution No. 57:20

The Chair recognized Park Board Vice-President Kevin Yeager, who stated the Park Board has voted to reduce their initial budget request due to the restructuring of the parks department. He said the Park Board thanked the Council for their assistance and guidance with the restructure.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN PRITSCHET AND BEVANS TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION SETTING THE CITY LEVY AT $6,133,163 WHICH IS A 1% INCREASE OVER 2020 AND THE HRA LEVY AT $136,519.

RESOLUTION NO. 57:20

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN PRITSCHET AND STUNEK TO SET THE 2021 BUDGETS AS PRESENTED.

Council Member Bevans disagrees with setting the budget as presented due to the large amount of funding that is allocated to BLAEDC each year.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, and Lambert voted “aye”. Members Bevans, Stunek and Johnson voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Committee Recommendations – Recommended by Mayor Badeaux

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN BEVANS AND LAMBERT TO APPOINT WAYNE ERICKSON TO THE CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE PARKING COMMISSION AND TO RE-APPOINT MICHAEL DUVAL TO THE BRAINERD HRA.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted “aye”. Member W. Erickson abstained from voting. No member voted “nay”. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Call for Applicants – Informational:
(Application Information at www.ci.brainerd.mn.us/boards/)

Mayor Recommended: (terms to expire on 12/31 of said year)
Cable TV Advisory Committee – 1 term (Expire 2021) - 2 terms (Expire 2022) – *one appointment pending*
Charter Commission – 2 terms (Expire 2020)

Ad Hoc Committees – Applicants Needed
Water Tower Fundraising Committee – Two positions available
Parking Commission – One position available – *pending appointment*

New Business

Police Chief Job Offer – Approved

Council Member Pritschet recommended all Council Members write down their choice, say the candidate's name and show it to the camera for an accurate vote.

- Council Member Pritschet – Voted for George Vinson
- Council Member Bevans - Voted for George Vinson
- Council Member W. Erickson – Voted for Brent Baloun
- Council Member T. Erickson – Voted for George Vinson
- Council Member Lambert – Voted for George Vinson
- Council Member Stunek – Voted for Brent Baloun
- Council Member Johnson - Voted for George Vinson

City Administrator Bergman stated George Vinson received five votes and Brent Baloun received two votes, resulting in George Vinson being the selected candidate.

Mr. Gary Weiers from DDA gave an update to the next steps for the conditional job offer and the negotiation process to George Vinson for the position of Police Chief.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN LAMBERT AND PRITSCHET TO APPOINT THE PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE TO ASSIST STAFF AND MR. WEIERS TO ADDRESS QUESTIONS DURING THE JOB OFFER NEGOTIATION PROCESS.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Amend Interim Organizational Chart for the Interim Public Works Department - Approved

City Administrator Bergman stated the Park Board directed staff to review the tasks of Recreation Coordinator Kaufman and the Parks Director position and to amend the organizational chart accordingly. She explained this is an interim change, effective December 19, 2020 through December 18, 2021.

Mr. Yeager explained the Recreation Coordinator will essentially have two definitive scopes of work, the recreational programs as one and the parks and maintenance as another. He said this was the reasoning behind assigning this one position to report to both the Park Board and the City Engineer, depending on the task.

Council discussion took place.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY ALDERMEN LAMBERT AND PRITSCHET TO APPROVE THE INTERIM CHANGE TO THE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AS PRESENTED.

Upon roll call, members Pritschet, Bevans, W. Erickson, T. Erickson, Lambert, Stunek, and Johnson voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Public Forum

The Chair opened the public forum at 8:32 p.m.

No one came forward.

The Chair closed the public forum at 8:33 p.m.

Staff Reports

None

Mayor's Report

Mayor Badeaux wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

Council Member Reports

Council Member Bevans stated he visited the shops located at the NP Center and encouraged everyone to stop in and shop local for Christmas this year.

Council Member W. Erickson thanked Staff and Council members for the great experience he has had serving on the City Council and what a great team of people the City has.

Council Member Pritschet thanked both Jan Lambert and Wayne Erickson for their knowledge and service to the community.

Council Member Stunek agreed with the comments made and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Council Member T. Erickson thanked Jan Lambert and Wayne Erickson for their service and welcomed the incoming Council Members.

Council Member Lambert agreed with everything said and is grateful for the opportunity she had to serve. She also requested permission to continue to serve on the Rental Housing Ordinance Review Committee, as they are nearing completion. The Council agreed and approved her request.

Council Member Johnson thanked Jan Lambert and Wayne Erickson for their service. He stated everyone should visit the stores downtown as they have so much to offer.

Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.03 to Discuss Labor Negotiation Strategy – 8:41 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 9:26 p.m.

Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(B), Attorney-Client Privilege for Discussion of the Carlson v. City of Brainerd Assessment Appeal – 9:27 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 9:38 p.m.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Jennifer Bergman
City Administrator

December 21, 2020